

The Gospel - Luke's Report

Chapter 1 (1 -4)

Dear Friend of God, there are already many reports written about Jesus. These reports come from people who were the earliest eyewitnesses and ministers of the Good News.

After checking the whole story, I also have decided to write a report, so that you may see for yourself the truth and accuracy of the Good News.

Jesus, help me understand your Good News

Chapter 1 (5 - 25)

When Herod was king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth who were really good people, but they were childless

Once when they went to the Temple in Jerusalem, Zechariah entered the inner sanctuary to burn incense, while all the people prayed outside.

An angel appeared and said "Zechariah, your prayer has been heard. Your wife will have a son and you must name him John. He will prepare the way of the Lord".

Not long after this, Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept to herself, thanking God for taking away her humiliation at not being able to have a baby.

Jesus, help childless couples to have a baby

Chapter 1 (26 - 38)

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to a virgin named Mary who was betrothed to a man named Joseph



The angel said to her "Mary, rejoice! You have been greatly blessed by God. You are to conceive and have a son whom you must name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God"

Mary said to the angel "How can this happen, since I am a virgin?"

The angel replied "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will specially bless you. Know this too: your cousin Elizabeth has, in her old age, conceived a son, and is now in her sixth month".

"I am the handmaid of the Lord", said Mary, "let what you have said, be done for me". And the angel left her

God the Son, thank you for becoming a baby in Mary's womb

Chapter 1 (39 - 45)

As soon as she could and as quickly as she could, Mary went to Elizabeth's home in the hills near Jerusalem. As soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in Elizabeth's womb jumped, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth said to Mary "Of all women, you are the most blessed, and blessed is the baby in your womb. Why should I be honored with a visit from



the mother of my Lord? Blessed are you for believing God's promise"

Mary, blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Chapter 1 (46 - 56)

Mary said "My soul praises the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior. Starting from today, all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me". Mary stayed with Elizabeth about 3 months and then went home. Elizabeth gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives shared her joy. When the child was circumcised on the 8th day, he was given the name John.

Jesus, please bless all women who are having a baby today

Chapter 1 (67 - 80)

When John was named, his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and said "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel. He has visited his people. And you, little child, you shall be called a prophet of the Most High. You will go before the Lord to prepare a way for him" . When John grew older, he lived in the wilderness until the time came for him to begin his ministry.

**Jesus, please help me prepare your way,
by helping people to know you**

Chapter 2 (1 - 8)

The Emperor of Rome ordered that a census be taken of the whole Empire. Every man had to go to his home town to be registered. So Joseph set out from Nazareth in Galilee and traveled to Galilee, to the town of David called Bethlehem, with his pregnant wife Mary.

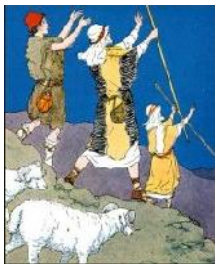
While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to have her child. She gave birth to a son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a feeding box for animals, because there was no room for them at the local inn.



**Baby Jesus, born in Bethlehem,
please bless all babies born in the world today**

Chapter 2 (9 - 14)

Not far from where Mary had her baby, there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their sheep during the night.



An angel appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them. The angel said "Do not be afraid. I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by everyone. Today in the town of David, a Saviour has been born to you. He is

Christ the Lord. Look for a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger".

Suddenly with the angel there were many other angels, praising God and singing "Glory to God in heaven, and peace to people on earth".

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord

Chapter 2 (15 - 20)

After the angels went away, the shepherds said to one another "Let's go to Bethlehem and see what the Lord has told us about".

So they quickly went and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. People who heard the shepherds talk about the angels were amazed.

As for Mary, she treasured every moment of what had happened, and pondered the whole event in her heart.

The shepherds went back to their fields glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen.

**Jesus we adore you, Jesus we adore you,
Jesus we adore you, Christ the Lord**

Chapter 2 (21 - 32)

When the baby was circumcised on the 8th day, he was given the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him 9 months before.

When Jesus was 40 days old, his parents took him to the Temple in Jerusalem, to present him to the



Lord, as the Law required. In Jerusalem there was an old man named Simeon. The Holy Spirit had revealed to him that

before he died, he would see the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit, he came to the Temple, took Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying "Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, for my eyes have seen the Saviour. He is a light to enlighten the pagans, and he is the glory of your people Israel"

**Jesus, true Light of the world,
we praise you Lord**

Chapter 2 (39 - 52)

Joseph and Mary moved back to their own town of Nazareth. The child Jesus was filled with wisdom as he grew older. Each year Joseph and Mary would take Jesus to Jerusalem for the celebration of the Passover. When Jesus was 12 years old, they went to Jerusalem as usual. But when their traveling group left Jerusalem, Jesus stayed behind without his parents knowing it. They presumed he was somewhere with the group. When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

After 2 days, they found him, in the Temple, listening to the religion teachers and asking them questions. People who heard him were astounded at his intelligence. His mother said to him "My child, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been really



worried about you". Jesus replied "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be concerned with my Father's work?" But they didn't understand what he meant. He went with them to Nazareth and lived under their authority. His mother stored all these things in her heart

Jesus, please help all "lost children" to be found!

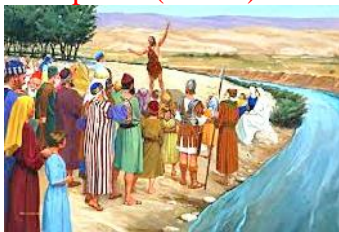
Chapter 3 (1 - 6)

In the 15th year of the Roman Emperor Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod was ruler of Galilee, and during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, God's message entered the heart of John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

John went through the whole Jordan River area proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. This had been foretold by the prophet Isaiah when he said "A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord"

Jesus, help us prepare your way, like John

Chapter 3 (10 -14)



People asked John the Baptist how they should reform their lives. He replied: "If anyone has extra clothing, share with people who have none.

If anyone has plenty to eat, share with people who have nothing". Tax collectors asked John what they should do. He replied "Don't cheat anyone". Soldiers asked him "What about us? What must we do?" He replied "No bullying. No extortion. Be content with your pay".

Jesus, what about me? What should I do? 91

Chapter 3 (15 - 22)

John the Baptist said to the people "I baptize you with water, but someone more powerful than I will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. I am not fit to undo the strap of the powerful one's sandals" .



Jesus then came and was baptized by John. While Jesus was praying after his baptism, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit came down on him in the shape of a dove. And a voice came from heaven "You are my Son, the Beloved. My favor rests on you".

Jesus, Beloved Son, please baptize me with your Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, please increase your influence in my life

Chapter 4 (1 - 13)

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. For 40 days he ate nothing, and was tempted by the Devil.

The Devil said "If you are the Son of God, turn a stone into bread". Jesus replied "Scripture says we do not live on bread alone".

The Devil took him to a high place and showed him all the kingdoms of the world. "Worship me and they will all be yours" he said.

Jesus replied

"Scripture says we must worship only God".

Then the Devil took him to the top of the Temple in Jerusalem and said "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down and let the angels protect you". Jesus replied "Scripture says we must not put the Lord our God to the test".

The Devil then left him.

Jesus, protect us from the Devil and all evil

Chapter 4 (14 - 22)

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee. He taught in local prayer halls. His reputation spread. He came to his home town of Nazareth and went to the prayer hall on the Sabbath day as he usually did.

He stood up and read these words from the prophet Isaiah:

"The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to prisoners, to give sight to the blind, to set the downtrodden free".

Jesus then sat down and said to the people in the prayer hall "These words from Isaiah are being fulfilled today even as you listen".

Jesus, please help me be more open to the power of your Spirit. O Holy Spirit, please increase your influence in my life

Chapter 4 (23 - 30)

People in the prayer hall rejected Jesus.

"Who does he think he is?" they asked.

"He's just the son of Joseph".

Jesus replied

"No prophet is ever accepted in his own country".

The angry people then took Jesus by force to the edge of the hill on which Nazareth was built.

They planned to throw him down the cliff.

But Jesus escaped from them and went away.

Jesus, please forgive people who reject you.

Please help them accept you

Chapter 4 (31 - 37)

Jesus went to Capernaum, a town in Galilee.

On the Sabbath day he taught in the local prayer hall.

In the hall there was a man possessed by a devil which shouted "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God"

Jesus said sharply "Be quiet! Come out of him".

And the devil left the man without hurting him.

People in the hall said "He gives orders to unclean spirits and they obey him". Jesus' reputation continued to spread through the district.

Jesus, please protect my family from evil

Chapter 4 (38 - 44)

Jesus went to the home of Simon Peter. Simon's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever. Jesus was asked to help her. He bent over her, rebuked the fever and it left her. She immediately got up and served her guests. After the Sabbath finished at sunset, everyone who had sick friends brought them to Jesus. Laying his hands on each of them, he healed them. The next morning Jesus got up early and went to a lonely place to pray. People found him and asked him not to leave the area. But he replied "I must proclaim the Good News of the kingdom of God to other towns too, because that is what I was sent to do".

Jesus, heal my friend (..name..) who is sick

Chapter 5 (1 - 11)

One day when Jesus was standing near the Lake of Gennesaret, with people pressing round him listening to the word of God, he saw two fishing boats near the bank. He got into one boat, it belonged to Simon Peter, and taught people from the boat, away from the shore a little distance. When he'd finished speaking, he said to Simon "Go out further to deep water and use your nets for a catch of fish". Simon replied "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but if you say so, I'll lower the nets"

They soon caught so many fish that the nets began to tear. They called to their friends in the second boat to come and help. Both boats were soon filled with fish.

Peter fell at Jesus' knees and said

"Leave me, Lord, I am a sinful man",

for he was overcome by the catch they had made, as were James and John who were his partners.

But Jesus said to Simon "Don't be afraid. From now on, you will be fishers of men". Simon and his friends then left everything to follow Jesus.

Jesus, bless and protect all "fishers of men"

Chapter 5 (12 - 16)

In one town that Jesus went to, a leper fell on his face and pleaded

"Sir, if you want to, you can heal me".

Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him,

and said "Of course I want to heal you!

Be healed!" And the leprosy left him at once

Jesus' reputation continued to grow.

Large crowds gathered to hear him speak and to have their sicknesses cured.

But afterwards Jesus would always go to a quiet place where he could be alone and pray.

**Jesus, please help me understand
that you want sick people to be healed**

Chapter 5 (17 - 26)

God's power was on display when Jesus healed people. People came from far and near to hear him teach, and to ask for healing

One day some people carried a paralyzed man through a crowd to Jesus. The man was on a stretcher

Jesus knew that these people believed he could help them, so he said to the paralyzed man "My friend, your sins are forgiven"

Some religious leaders in the crowd were thinking to themselves that Jesus was wrong to say he could forgive sins.

So Jesus said to the leaders "Which is easier: to say 'Your sins are forgiven', or to say 'Get up and walk'?"

Then to prove that he had authority to forgive sins, he said to the paralyzed man "Get up, pick up your bed and go home".

The man got up, picked up his stretcher and went home.

The crowd praised God for what they had seen.

Jesus, please give me more faith in your power to forgive, your power to heal

Chapter 5 (27 - 32)

As Jesus walked along, he noticed a tax collector sitting by the customs house. The collector's name was Levi (Matthew). Jesus said to him "Follow me". Leaving everything, he got up and went with Jesus.

In Jesus' honor Levi held a banquet in his house. Many tax collectors and social outcasts were present.

The religious leaders complained "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and outcasts?" Jesus replied "It is not those who are well who need the doctor, but the sick. I have come to call sinners, not the virtuous, to repentance".

Jesus, thank you for befriending people who were looked down on. Please help me do likewise

Chapter 6 (1 - 5)

One Sabbath day Jesus and his disciples were walking through a cornfield. The disciples were hungry. They picked some ears of corn and ate them.

Picking corn on the Sabbath was regarded as unlawful by the Pharisees. So the Pharisees said to Jesus "Your disciples are breaking the Sabbath law". Jesus replied "Don't you remember what King David and his followers once did when they were hungry?"

They ate the Temple bread which only the priests were allowed to eat. I am Master of the Sabbath".

Jesus, please help me understand that love is more important than law

Chapter 6 (6 - 11)

On another Sabbath, Jesus visited a prayer hall. A man with a withered hand was in the prayer hall.

Some religious leaders were watching to see if Jesus would heal the man (since no work was allowed on the Sabbath, and they regarded healing as work).

Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he said to the man with the withered hand

"Stand up! Come out into the middle of the hall".

He came out and stood there. Jesus then asked the leaders "Is it against the law on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil; to save life or to destroy it?"

Then he said to the man with the withered hand "Stretch out your hand".

He stretched it out. It was healed.

The leaders were very angry. They left the prayer hall and began plotting how to get rid of Jesus.

Jesus, please stop bad religious leaders from misleading people

Chapter 6 (12 - 16)

Jesus went to the hills to pray. He spent a whole night praying. In the morning he called all his disciples together. He chose 12 of them and called them "apostles":

Peter and his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon, Judas son of James - and Judas Iscariot who became a traitor.

Jesus and the 12 came down from the hill to a place of level ground. Gathered there were his many disciples and a large crowd of people from all over the country who had come to hear him and to be healed of diseases

People in the crowd tried to touch Jesus because power came out of him that cured everyone.

Jesus, please bless modern day apostles who pray for the sick to be healed

Chapter 6 (20 - 26)

Jesus said to his disciples

"Blessed are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry: you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now: you shall be happy. Blessed are you when people hate you because of me: your reward will be great in heaven

But alas for you who are rich:
your consolation is only in this world.

Alas for you who have plenty to eat:
you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now:
you shall mourn and weep".

Jesus, please help me to give more time and importance to the things that really matter

Chapter 6 (27 - 38)

Jesus said to the people "Love your enemies.

Do good to people who hate you.

Pray for people who are unkind to you.

Treat others as you would like them to treat you

Be compassionate

as your heavenly Father is compassionate.

Do not judge, and you will not be judged.

Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned

Grant pardon, and you will be pardoned.

Give, and there will be gifts for you.

The amount you measure out

is the amount you will be given back"

Jesus, bless (..name..) who was unkind to me

Chapter 6 (39 - 45)

In his teaching, Jesus said "Why do you notice the splinter in someone else's eye, but don't notice the plank in your own eye? Deal with your own faults before you start correcting other people

A good tree does not produce bad fruit.

A bad tree does not produce good fruit.

The fruit tells you what sort of tree it came from.

So with people: their words and actions tell you what their heart is like - good or bad.

**Jesus, please help me be a good person,
producing good fruit**

Chapter 6 (46 - 49)

In his teaching, Jesus said "Why do you call me 'Lord', yet do not do what I ask you to do?

Anyone who comes to me and listens to my words and puts them into practice, is like a man who built his house on a solid foundation.

That house was so well built,
that even floods could not damage it.

But anyone who listens and does not put my words into practice, is like a man who built his house without a foundation.

As soon as floods came, the house collapsed".

**Jesus, please help me put your words into
practice. Help me apply them in my daily life**



Chapter 7 (1 - 10)

Jesus went to the town of Capernaum. In the town there was a Roman soldier, a centurion, who had a dear servant who was sick and close to death.

Having heard about Jesus, the centurion sent some Jewish friends to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant. The Jewish friends said to Jesus "He deserves this of you. He is friendly to our people. He is the one who built our prayer hall"

Jesus went with them, but before they reached the house, the centurion sent some servants with the message "Sir, I am not worthy to receive you into my house. This is why I didn't come to you personally. Just say a word, and my servant will be healed"

When Jesus heard these words, he said to the crowd following him "I have not found faith as great as this man's". When the messengers got back to the house, they saw that the servant was healed and in perfect health

**"Jesus, I am not worthy to receive you.
Say but the word, and I shall be healed"**

(prayer from Communion service) 103 Luke

Chapter 7 (11 - 17)

Jesus and his disciples went to a town called Nain. Many other people went with them. As they reached the town, a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.



When the Lord saw her, he felt sorry for her.

"Do not cry" he said. Then he said "Young man, I tell you to get up". The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying "A great prophet has appeared among us. God has visited his people".

Jesus, please give me the faith to pray that dead people will come back to life - you who once told your disciples "to raise the dead"

Chapter 7 (18 - 30)

John the Baptist, imprisoned by King Herod, heard the news about Jesus. John sent two of his friends to ask Jesus "Are you the Promised One?" Jesus replied "Go and tell John what you have seen today: the blind see again, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor".

Jesus then spoke to the people about John: 104

"Everyone who accepted baptism from John, acknowledged God's plan. But by refusing baptism from him, the religious leaders thwarted what God had in mind for them".

Jesus, please don't let me do anything to thwart your plan for my life

Chapter 7 (36 - 50)

A religious leader invited Jesus for a meal. A woman who had a bad name heard that Jesus was at the leader's home. She entered the house and knelt behind Jesus, crying. Her tears fell on Jesus' feet, and she wiped them away with her hair. She covered his feet with kisses, and put ointment on them. The leader was thinking "If Jesus is a prophet, he would know what sort of woman is now touching him".

So Jesus said to the leader "I came into your house and you did not follow the custom of pouring water on my feet. But this woman has poured out her tears on my feet. You gave me no welcoming kiss, but she has been covering my feet with kisses. You gave me no welcoming oil on my head, but she has anointed my feet. I tell you that her sins must have been forgiven, or she would not have shown such great love.

People who are forgiven little, show little love".

Jesus, forgive my sins. Help me show great love

Chapter 8 (1 - 3)

Jesus went to many towns and villages, proclaiming the Good News.

The 12 apostles went with him, as did a group of women who had been healed of evil spirits and sicknesses: Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna and several others. These women used their own money to support Jesus and the apostles.

Jesus, thank you for all the women who support the spread of the Good News in today's world

Chapter 8 (4 - 15)

One day Jesus told the people this story:

A farmer was planting seeds in his field.

Some seeds fell on the path. Birds ate them.

Some seeds fell on rocky ground.

They became sickly plants, without roots, and died. Some seeds fell among thorns.

When they became plants, they were choked by the thorns. Some seeds fell on good soil and produced a rich harvest.

People who hear God's word without good will, are like the seeds on the path. They are easy prey for Satan. People who hear God's word only superficially, are like the seeds on rocky ground. As soon as difficulties come, such people easily give up.

People who hear God's word with one ear, but with the other are listening to the call of greed and pleasure, are like the seeds among thorns. Greed kills the word. People who hear God's word with good will and put it into practice, are like the good seeds which produced a rich harvest.
Jesus, please help me be good seed!

Chapter 8 (19 -21)

Jesus' mother and his brothers came looking for him. They could not get to him because of the crowd. Jesus was told "Your mother and brothers want to see you". Jesus replied "My mother and brothers are people who hear the word of God and put it into practice".

Jesus, please help me put your word into practice in my daily life

Chapter 8 (22 -25)

Jesus and his disciples got into a boat to cross the lake. Jesus was so tired that he went to sleep in the boat. Then a sudden storm caused big waves to lash the boat. Jesus' friends woke him up and said "Master, we are sinking". Jesus ordered the wind and sea to be calm. Straight away the wind and sea were calm. The disciples said to each other "Who is this? Even the wind and sea obey him." **Jesus, please calm the storms in my life**

Chapter 8 (40 - 56)

A prayer hall official came to Jesus and urgently asked him to go to his house, where his 12 year old daughter was dying.

As Jesus and his friends were following the official to his home, a woman who had a hemorrhage for 12 years came up behind Jesus and touched his clothing. Her bleeding stopped at that moment. Jesus knew what had happened, and said to her "My daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace".

Before Jesus arrived at the official's house, a messenger arrived and said to the official "Your daughter is dead.

Do not trouble the Master any more".

Jesus heard these words and said to the official "Do not be afraid. Have faith, and she will be ok".

At the house Jesus allowed only Peter, James, John and the girl's parents to go with him inside. To the mourners Jesus said "Stop crying. She is not dead, but asleep". They laughed at him, since they knew she was dead.

Jesus took the little girl by the hand and called to her "Child, get up".

Her spirit returned and she got up at once.

Jesus, please increase my faith in your power to heal sick people and raise the dead

Chapter 9 (1 - 6)

Jesus called the 12 apostles together. He gave them power and authority to cast out devils and to heal sick people. He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

So they set out and went from village to village proclaiming the Good News and healing sick people.

Jesus, help me understand how some people have a special gift for healing sick people....and how I can better pray to heal sick people

Chapter 9 (10 -17)

Once after Jesus had been healing and teaching all afternoon, his disciples said to him "It's getting late and the people need to go and eat".

Jesus answered "They don't need to go. *You* feed them". The disciples replied "We have only 5 loaves and 2 fish"

Jesus got the people to sit on the grass. There were about 20,000 of them. Then he blessed the loaves and fish. He handed the loaves and fish to his disciples. His disciples gave them to the crowd. Everyone had plenty to eat.

They even had 12 baskets of leftovers.

Jesus, please make leaders do more to help the starving people of the world

Chapter 9 (18 - 21)

One day Jesus asked his disciples

"Who do people say I am?"

The disciples replied "Some people say you are one of the famous prophets come back to life".

Jesus then asked them

"And what about you. Who do *you* say I am?"

Peter answered

"You are the Anointed One of God"

Jesus, please help more and more people know you and love you

Chapter 9 (22 - 25)

Jesus now began explaining to his disciples how he would suffer, die and rise from the dead.

He also said "If you want to be my disciple, you must deny yourself, take up your own cross, and follow me.

Selfishness will ruin your life.

Self-sacrificing will bless your life.

What use is it to have everything in this world yet miss out on Heaven?"

Jesus, please help me find my life by losing it in service of others



Chapter 9 (28 - 36)

One day Jesus took his disciples Peter, James and John up a high mountain to pray.

On the mountain, while Jesus was praying, his whole appearance changed.

His clothes became brilliant as lightning.

The prophets Moses and Elijah appeared and spoke with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus

"Lord, how good it is for us to be here!"

Then a bright cloud covered them with its shadow.

From the cloud came a voice:

"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him".

When the voice had finished speaking, the disciples saw only Jesus in his normal appearance.

Jesus, Beloved Son of God,

how good it is to spend time with you in prayer

Chapter 9 (51 - 58)

When the time came for Jesus to finish his life on earth, he resolutely took the road to Jerusalem

As Jesus and his disciples traveled along, they met a man who said to him

"I will follow you wherever you go".

Jesus replied "Foxes have holes, and birds have nests,

but I have nowhere to lay my head".

Jesus, give me courage to do what I should do

Chapter 10 (1 - 9)

Jesus appointed 72 disciples to go ahead of him in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit.

He said to them "The harvest is rich, but the laborers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send laborers to his harvest.

When you go into a town, cure those in it who are sick, and say:

‘The kingdom of God is very near to you’"

Jesus, please inspire more people to make the spreading of the Good News their life's work

Chapter 10 (17 - 24)

The 72 came back rejoicing. "Lord", they said, "even the devils submit to us when we use your name".

Jesus replied "Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot the whole strength of the enemy. Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you. Rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven

Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it".

Jesus, thank you for the gift of faith

Chapter 10 (25 - 28)

To test Jesus, a religious leader asked him in public "Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replied "What does the Law say?" He replied "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and you must care for others as much as you care about yourself". "You are correct", said Jesus, "do this and life is yours".

Jesus, help me to love you with all my heart....and to care for others as much as I care about myself

Chapter 10 (29 - 37)

The religious leader then asked another question: "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied "A man on a journey was attacked by robbers. They beat him, took all he had, and left him seriously injured. A priest came by and saw the man, but did not help him. A temple worker also saw him, but did not help. But a lowly foreigner who saw him was moved with pity. The foreigner bandaged his wounds, and used his own donkey to take the man to an inn. He paid the innkeeper to look after the man. Which of the three was a neighbor to the injured man?" The leader replied "The one who helped him". Jesus then said "Go, and do the same".

Jesus, don't let me ignore people who need help

Chapter 10 (38-42)

Jesus and his disciples visited the home of Martha and Mary. Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to him speaking. Martha complained "Lord, do you not care that my sister is not helping me with the serving?" But the Lord answered "Martha, Martha, you worry and fret about so many things. Mary has chosen has made a better choice"

Jesus, please bless my serving and my listening!

Chapter 11 (1 - 4)

Once when Jesus had finished praying in private, one of his disciples asked him "Lord, teach us to pray". Jesus replied "Pray like this: Father, may everyone love and honor you. Your kingdom come. Thank you for enough food for today. Forgive us as we forgive others. Save us in time of trial"

Jesus, please teach me how to pray

Chapter 11 (9 - 13)

Jesus said to his disciples "Ask, and it will be given to you. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will open. If children ask their parents for something good, their parents will always give it to them. Even more so will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him"

Heavenly Father, please give me your Holy Spirit!

Chapter 11 (27 - 32)

While Jesus was speaking, a woman in the crowd called out "Blessed the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you".

Jesus replied "Even more blessed are those who hear the word of God and put it into practice!"

Jesus also said "On Judgement day, the Queen of the South will rise up with the people of this generation and condemn them, because she came from a distant country to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and there is something greater than Solomon here".

**Jesus, greater than Solomon,
please help me put your teaching into practice**

Chapter 11 (37 - 54)

Jesus said to the religious leaders "You worry so much about cleaning dirty dishes, but don't care about having a dirty heart full of extortion and wickedness.

At meetings and in the market, you like being treated as people of importance. But in fact you are like unmarked tombs that people walk on without knowing it. You expect ordinary people to observe unreasonable laws, while you excuse yourselves from such laws.

You don't care about obtaining real wisdom, and you prevent others from obtaining wisdom"

The leaders were stung by Jesus' words, and they intensified their efforts to trap him in his speech

Jesus, help religious leaders be sincere people



Chapter 12 (15 - 21)

Jesus told the people this story: There was a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his

land, thought to himself "What am I to do? I don't have enough room to store my crops". Then he said to himself "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, and have a good time"

But God said to him "Fool! This very night your earthly life will come to an end. And all your possessions, who will get them?" So it is when people store up treasure for themselves, instead of making themselves rich in the sight of God

Jesus, please help me to be satisfied with what I have, and not to be greedy

Chapter 12 (22 - 34)

Jesus said to his disciples

"Do not worry about food and clothing.

As regards food, think of the birds.

They don't sow or reap, and they have no homes to store things. Yet God feeds them.

As regards clothing, think how the flowers grow with a beauty greater than that of Solomon's clothes. God will look after you more than he looks after the flowers.

So, don't set your hearts on food and clothing.

Don't go in for worry. Just set your hearts on God's kingdom, then food and clothing will not be a problem. Where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be too."

Jesus, please help me to put your friendship as number one in my life

Chapter 12 (35 - 48)

Jesus said to his disciples "Be like people waiting for their master to return, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Be ready, for I will come at an hour you do not expect. When someone is given a great deal, of that person more will be expected."

Jesus, you have given me so much. Please help me use my gifts and my situation to do more to help other people

Chapter 13 (10 - 17) One Sabbath day Jesus was teaching in a prayer hall. There was a woman there who for 18 years had been possessed by a spirit which left her bent over and unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her



over and said "Woman, you are rid of your infirmity" and he laid his hands on her. At once she was healed and could stand up straight, and she glorified God .

Jesus, please heal the people I know who are bent over and can't stand up straight

Chapter 13 (18 - 35)

Jesus said to the people "The kingdom of God is like a tiny seed planted in the ground. It grows and becomes a big tree, and the birds live in its branches. The kingdom of heaven is like yeast mixed with flour until the flour is leavened all through. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you kill the prophets who are sent to you. How often have I longed to gather your children, as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and you refused"

Jesus, may your kingdom grow in the hearts of more and more people



Chapter 14 (1 - 6)

One Sabbath day Jesus went for a meal to the house of a religious leader. In the house Jesus saw a man with dropsy. Jesus asked the leaders present there "Is it against the Law to cure a man on the Sabbath?" But they remained silent. Jesus took the man, healed him, and sent him away. Then Jesus said to the leaders "Which of you here, if his son falls into a well, will not pull him out on a Sabbath day?" Again the leaders remained silent

Jesus, help me understand that "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath"

Chapter 14 (7 - 11)

At the leader's house, Jesus noticed how the guests picked the places of honor. He said to them "When someone invites you to a meal, do not choose a seat of honor.



Rather, when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there. Maybe your host will ask you to move to a seat of honor.

Everyone who exalts himself, will be humbled. Whoever humbles himself, will be exalted"

Jesus, please help me choose the lowest place

Chapter 14 (12 - 14)

Jesus said to the meal guests "When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, family, or rich neighbors. Rather, when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind That they cannot repay you means you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again"

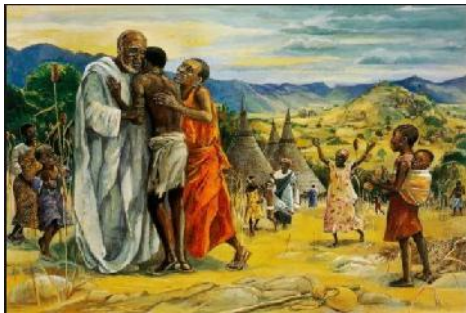
Jesus, help me do more to help poor people



Chapter 15 (11 -24)

Jesus told this story: a man had two sons. The younger said to his father "Father, give me the share of the estate that would come to me". So the father divided his property between them. A few days later, the younger son left for a distant land where he wasted his money in wild living. When he had used all his money, that country had a severe famine, and he began to feel the pinch. So he got a job on a farm feeding pigs. He would willingly have eaten the pigs' food, but no one offered him anything

Then he came to his senses and said "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and I am dying of hunger. I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then the son said "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son". But the father said to his servants "Quick! Bring



out the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have

been fattening, and kill it. We are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead, and has come back to life. He was lost, and is found".

Jesus, please help me understand how much you love me, no matter what mistakes I make

Chapter 16 (19 - 26)

Jesus told this story to the people: There was a rich man who used to dress in expensive clothes and feast magnificently every day. At his gate there was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to eat scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.



In his torment in Hell, the rich man

looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus at his side. So the rich man cried out "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames". "My son", replied Abraham, "remember that during your life, good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here, while you are in agony"

Jesus, please help me understand how I should do more to help poor people 122

Chapter 17 (11 - 19) On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus entered a village where 10 lepers came to meet him. They stood at a distance and called out "Jesus, Master, take pity on us!" Jesus said to them "Go and show yourselves to the priests". As they went away, their leprosy disappeared. Seeing



that he was healed, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. This made Jesus say "Were not all 10 healed? Where are

the 9 others?" **Jesus, please don't let me forget to say "thank you" when someone helps me**

Chapter 18 (1 - 7) Jesus told his disciples a story about the need to pray continually and never lose heart: There was a judge who had neither fear of God nor respect for people. In the same town



there was a widow who kept asking the judge for justice against someone who had wronged her. For a long time the judge refused to help her, but at last he said to himself "I must give this widow her rights, or she will pester me to death". Even more so God will see that justice is done for those who cry out to him for help day and night, even if he delays to help them.

Jesus give me perseverance to pray each day

Chapter 18 (9 - 14)

Some people prided themselves on being virtuous, and despised others. Jesus told them this story:

Two men went to the Temple to pray, one a religious leader, the other a social outcast. The leader stood there and said "I thank you, God, that I am not greedy, unjust and adulterous like other people such as this outcast here". The outcast did not even raise his eyes, but beat his breast and said "God, be merciful to me, a sinner". The outcast, I tell you, went home a friend of God. The leader did not. People who exalt themselves will be humbled. People who humble themselves will be exalted.



Jesus, be merciful to me, a sinner

Chapter 18 (15 - 17)

People brought little children to Jesus, for him to bless them. The disciples told the people to go away and not bother Jesus. But Jesus called the children to him and said "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child, will never enter it".

**Jesus, please give all children
the chance to know and love you**

Chapter 18 (18 - 23)

A young man from a prominent family asked Jesus "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replied "You know the commandments: you must not commit adultery, you must not kill, you must not steal, you must honor your father and mother". The man answered "I have kept all these commandments all my life".

Jesus then said "There is still one higher goal: sell all you own, give the money to the poor, then come follow me".

But when the man heard this he was very sad, because he was very rich.

**Jesus, please help me follow you
the way you want me to follow you**

Chapter 18 (31 -34)

Once again Jesus explained to the 12 apostles what would happen to him:

"Now we are going to Jerusalem. Everything written about me by the prophets will happen: I will be handed over to the pagans.

I will be mocked and spat on.

I will be scourged and put to death.

On the third day I will rise from the dead". But the apostles had no idea what his words meant.

**Jesus, especially each Friday,
please help me to remember you on the Cross**

Chapter 18 (35 - 43)

As Jesus entered Jericho, there was a blind beggar sitting by the road. People in the crowd told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. So he called out "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me". Some people told him to be quiet, but he just shouted all the louder "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me". Jesus stopped and asked him "What do you want me to do for you?" He replied "Sir, let me see again". Jesus said to him "Receive your sight. Your faith has saved you". Instantly his sight returned, and he followed Jesus, praising God.

Jesus, please heal my blind friend (..name..)

Chapter 19 (1 - 9)



In Jericho there was a wealthy man named Zacchaeus, a senior tax collector. He wanted to see what kind of person Jesus was. But because of his short stature, he couldn't see over the crowd. So he climbed a tree. Jesus saw him up the tree and said "Zacchaeus, come down, because I will stay at your house today". Zacchaeus hurried down and welcomed Jesus warmly. People complained "He's gone to stay at the house of an outcast"

Zacchaeus replied "Sir, I am going to give half of my property to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I'll pay them back fourfold". Jesus said to him "Today salvation has come to this house"

Jesus, please help more people to want to know and love you

Chapter 19 (28 - 40)

When Jesus came near to Jerusalem, he sent two disciples to a nearby village to get a donkey colt which no one had ever ridden. Jesus sat on the colt and began the descent from the Mount of Olives down the hill to Jerusalem.

The disciples spread their clothes on the road, and joyfully praised God for all the miracles they had seen. They cried out "Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord!"



Some religious leaders told Jesus to stop the disciples from calling out. Jesus replied "If these keep silence, the stones will cry out"

Jesus, you who came in the name of the Lord, we praise and love you

Chapter 19 (41 - 48)

As Jesus caught sight of Jerusalem,
he shed tears over it and said

"How I wish you had accepted my message of
peace. You will be totally destroyed,
because you rejected God's offer of grace".

Jesus then went into the Temple and drove out the
sellers. "According to the Scripture", he said,
"my house will be a house of prayer.

But you have turned it into a robbers' den".

Each day Jesus taught in the Temple.

The leaders wanted to do away with him,
but they didn't know how to, since most of the
ordinary people had great respect for Jesus.

Jesus, don't let me ever reject your friendship

Chapter 20 (45 - 47)

After some leaders had asked him some trick
questions, Jesus said to his disciples

"Beware of the religious leaders who like to walk
about in special clothes and love to be greeted
obsequiously in the market places. They like the
front seats in prayer halls and the places of honor
at banquets. They like making a show of lengthy
prayers. But at the same time they steal the
property of widows. They will receive a severe
sentence from God at the end of their lives.

Jesus, help religious leaders be good people

Chapter 21 (6 - 38)

Jesus said to his disciples that Jerusalem would be destroyed and its people scattered throughout the world. He also spoke of how his followers would be persecuted, and of the end of the world: "The planets will be shaken, nations will be in agony, bewildered by the force of the oceans. Then they will see me coming in a cloud with great power and glory

To prepare for your own end of earthly life, stay faithful to prayer and goodness. Don't let your heart be coarsened by debauchery, drunkenness and material cares"

In this his final week, Jesus spent the daytime in the Temple, teaching. From early morning the people would gather round him to listen to him. Then he would spend the night on the Mount of Olives.

Jesus, help me be faithful to prayer and goodness

Chapter 22 (1 - 6)

Big crowds were in Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover which was only a few days away. The religious leaders were afraid that the crowds would prevent them from killing Jesus.

But then Satan entered into Judas Iscariot who was one of the 12 apostles. Judas went to the leaders to plan how to capture Jesus. The leaders agreed to give Judas some money for his help. Judas then began looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus at a time when there were no crowds around.

Jesus, please protect me from Satan's influence, and from any sort of pride that might make me want to abandon your friendship



Chapter 22 (12 - 20)

On the evening of the Passover feast, Jesus and his apostles ate the Passover Lamb in a

large upper room furnished with couches. While they were having the meal, Jesus took some bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it and gave it to his apostles saying "This is my body. Do this in memory of me". Then he took a cup of wine and said "This cup is the new covenant in my blood which will be poured out for you"

Jesus, please help me understand how your Body and Blood are present in a Communion service

Chapter 22 (31 - 34)

Jesus said to the apostle Peter "Satan has got his wish to attack you. But I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail. Once you have recovered from Satan's attack, you in your turn must give strength to others".

Peter said "Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you and to die with you".

Jesus replied "Peter, before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you know me".

Jesus, strengthen my faith. Strengthen my faith

Chapter 22 (39 - 46)

After the Passover meal, Jesus and his disciples went to the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to them "Pray for protection in time of trial". Then he went apart by himself, about 40 meters way, knelt down and prayed "Father, save me from this time of trial. But let your will, not mine, be done".

An angel from heaven appeared to him to give him strength. His agony was so great that his sweat became drops of blood falling to the ground. When he got up and went to the disciples, he found them sleeping - so overcome were they with sorrow.

**Jesus, please help me to pray
"not my will, but yours be done"**

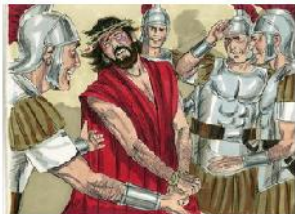
Chapter 22 (47 - 53) While Jesus was speaking, a group of men arrived, led by Judas. One of Jesus' apostles used his sword to cut off the right ear of one of the men sent to arrest Jesus. Jesus told his apostles not to use their swords. Then touching the man's ear, he healed him. Jesus said to the men arresting him "This is your hour. This is the reign of darkness". **Jesus, you gave up your freedom for our salvation**



Chapter 22 (54 - 62) The men who arrested Jesus took him to the home of the main religious leader. Peter followed at a distance. As Peter sat by a fire in the courtyard, a servant-girl said "This man was with Jesus". Peter replied "Woman I do not know him". A little while later, another person said "You are one of them". Peter replied "I am not". About an hour later, a man said "He was certainly with them. He is from Galilee". Peter replied "I do not know what you are talking about". While he was still speaking, a rooster crowed, and the Lord looked straight at Peter, and Peter remembered what the Lord had said, "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times". Peter went outside and cried bitterly. **Jesus, don't let me ever deny that I know you**

Chapter 22 (63 - 65)

The men who were guarding Jesus mocked him and beat him. They blindfolded him. "Since you are a prophet", they said, "tell us who hit you just then". And they continued heaping insults on him



Jesus, please stop me from making offensive fun of other people

Chapter 22.66 to Chapter 23.12

At daybreak there was a meeting of the religious leaders. Jesus was brought before them. They asked him "Are you the Son of God?" He replied "Yes". They said "We have heard his blasphemy from his own lips".

They took him to the Roman governor, Pilate, and made many false accusations against him. Pilate said "I find no case against him". Jesus was then taken to King Herod who made fun of him and sent him back to Pilate

Jesus, on trial before the leaders, before Herod and before Pilate, please help all prisoners who are on trial today

Chapter 23 (13 - 25)

Pilate said to the religious leaders and to the people "You brought this man before me as a political agitator. Neither Herod nor I have found a case against the man. He has done nothing deserving death. I shall have him flogged and then let him go". But the leaders and people screamed out "Away with him. Crucify him!" Pilate asked "Why? What harm has he done?" They kept shouting "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate then gave in to them and handed Jesus over for crucifixion.

Jesus, how great your mental suffering must have been as the crowd shouted for your death

Chapter 23 (26 - 34)

As Jesus was being led to the place of crucifixion, a man named Simon was coming into Jerusalem from the country. He was made to carry the cross behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed him, including women who mourned for him. Jesus said to them "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me. Weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For if this is how innocent people are treated, what will happen to people who are guilty?" Two criminals were led out with Jesus to be crucified with him.

Jesus, please help me to carry my cross each day

Chapter 23 (33 - 38)

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals also, one on his right, the other on his left. Above his head was placed a sign "This is the King of the Jews".

Jesus prayed "Father, forgive them. They do not know what they are doing". The leaders made fun of him "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the Christ of God". The soldiers mocked him too: "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself".



Jesus, you forgave those who mocked you and crucified you. I forgive anyone who has been unkind to me

Chapter 23 (39 - 43)

One of the criminals hanging on a cross mockingly said to Jesus "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well". But the other criminal rebuked the first one and said "We are paying the penalty for our crimes. But this man has done nothing wrong". "Jesus", he said, "remember me when you come into your kingdom". Jesus replied "I promise you, this day you will be with me in Paradise".

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom

Chapter 23 (44 - 49)

At about midday, there was an eclipse of the sun. The whole land was in darkness until about 3pm. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice "Father, into your hands I entrust my life". Then he died



When the Roman army leader saw what had happened, he said "This was a great and good man". The people who had been present went

home asking God for mercy. Jesus' friends stood at a distance and saw all that had happened.

Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for the salvation of the world

Chapter 23 (50 -56)

Joseph from the town of Arimathaea was a member of the religious leaders' council. He was a good and just man, and had not agreed to the killing of Jesus. Late Friday afternoon, he went to Governor Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He took it down from the cross, wrapped it in a burial cloth, and put it in a rock tomb that had not yet been used.

The women from Galilee who had come to Jerusalem with Jesus went with Joseph to the tomb. Then they left to prepare burial spices and ointments. They planned to put these on Jesus' body after the Saturday Sabbath day of rest.



Jesus in the tomb, please give eternal life to all the dead

Chapter 24 (1 - 11)

On Sunday morning, at daybreak, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. They found that the large stone which had been put at the tomb's entrance had been rolled away.

They entered the tomb and found that the body of Jesus was not there. Suddenly two men in brilliant clothes appeared at their side

The men said to them "Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here. He has risen, just as he said he would"

The women told all this to the eleven apostles. But the apostles did not believe them.

Jesus, increase my faith in your resurrection



Chapter 24 (13 - 35)

That same day, two of Jesus' disciples were on their way from Jerusalem to the village of Emmaus, about 7 km from Jerusalem. As they talked about all that had happened, Jesus himself

joined them as they walked along. But they did not recognize him. When Jesus asked them what they were talking about, they said "About Jesus of Nazareth, and how our leaders had him crucified. And how some women in our group went to Jesus' tomb and were told by angels that he was alive". Jesus then explained the Scripture passages which predicted his suffering and resurrection. Jesus joined the two men for an evening meal. During the meal, he blessed some bread and gave it to them. They then recognized him.

But he immediately vanished from their sight. They said to each other "Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" Straight away they returned to Jerusalem where the eleven apostles said to them "Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen".

Then they told their story of what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized Jesus at the breaking of bread.

Jesus, please make my heart burn within me as I read the Bible

Chapter 24 (36 - 49)

The disciples were still talking about what had happened when suddenly Jesus himself stood among them. At first they were terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said "Look at my hands and feet. Yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves. A ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have". Their fear turned to joy but they still couldn't believe what they were seeing. So he asked them for something



to eat, and they gave him some grilled fish which he ate in front of them.

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and he said "So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer, and on the third day rise from the dead. And that in his name repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations

Soon I will send down to you
what the Father promised (the Holy Spirit)

Stay in Jerusalem until you are clothed
with this power from on high"

**Jesus, increase my faith in your resurrection,
and open my mind to understand the Bible
better**

Chapter 24 (50 -53)

Jesus then took his disciples out of Jerusalem



to the village of
Bethany. Lifting up his
hands, he blessed
them. As he blessed
them, he was carried up
to heaven. They
worshipped him,
then went back to
Jerusalem full of joy.
They were continually
in the Temple
praising God

**Jesus, thank you for
the Gospel of Luke. Please increase my faith in
you as the One who came down from heaven,
and went back to heaven**