



CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT THE RELIGION

# BIBLE SURVEY

THE UN-DEVOTIONAL

LUKE  
Week 2



# The Golden Rule

## DAY 8

Luke 6:20-49

How do you interpret “the Golden Rule”? (a) Do unto others before they do unto you! (b) The one who has the gold makes the rules! (c) Do unto others as you would have them treat you!

**1.** List the four beatitudes (vs. 20-23) and the contrasting four woes (vs. 24-26). How does the kingdom of God, both in the present and future, enable Christians to rejoice? How does it compare with the kingdom of Satan?

**2.** In what ways were the disciples to demonstrate mercy (vs. 36-42)? How does discernment of right and wrong have its place in being merciful? What must come first—criticism of others or criticism of oneself?

**3.** Is merely hearing the gospel enough or is action necessary for a firm foundation for life (vs. 43-49)?

**1.** When did you last turn the other cheek? Did it help you? Did the other person see the error of his or her ways?

**2.** Would the world have fewer lawsuits if we all followed the Golden Rule (vs. 27-36)? How does love motivate you to put the needs of others before your own?

**3.** What kind of fruit is your tree producing? (a) red delicious apples, (b) green persimmons, (c) crabapples.

*The **Sermon on the Plain** (v. 17) may be a synopsis of the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5–7), or it may have been given at another time. In and through Christ we may live out and exemplify these values in the kingdom now, even as we look ahead for the fullness of the kingdom in the future.*

### OPENING

up to the Word

### DIGGING

into the Word

### LIVING

out the Word

### WINDOW

on the Word

## DAY 9

# The Prostitute and the Pharisee

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Luke 7:1-50

**OPENING**  
up to the Word

What's your goal in life? (a) to make money, (b) to attain at least the lowest level in the kingdom to come, (c) to be on top, now and in the future, (d) a personal relationship with Jesus.

**DIGGING**  
into the Word

**1.** Contrast the two miracles of healing in this chapter (vs. 1-10 and 11-16). Which one was for a gentile? Which healing highlighted the faith of the requester? Which healing held no noticeable element of human faith?

**2.** Why was John the Baptist questioning whether Jesus was "the one who was to come" (vs. 18-23)? What signs did Jesus cite to confirm his ministry? Also see 4:16-19.

**4.** Why were the Pharisees unwilling to accept either Jesus or John? How does the "lowest" person in the kingdom rate against the "greatest" in this life?

**5.** How did "the woman who had lived a sinful life" serve Jesus (vs. 36-50)? How did Jesus respond to the woman's faithful service, repentance and faith?

**LIVING**  
out the Word

**1.** Have you experienced God's healing intervention in your life as a result of prayer? Were you aware of his intervention even though you didn't ask?

**2.** Are you furthering the ministry of Jesus by your life (vs. 22, 27-28, 44-46)?

**3.** How is faith evidenced in the life of people who repent and seek Jesus (vs. 9, 50)? Has Jesus forgiven the great debts you owe him?

**4.** Do you "love much" like the sinful woman? How do your acts of service demonstrate your love?

**WINDOW**  
on the Word

*In this chapter, Jesus **resurrected** a boy, even though no one requested his healing. Three individuals are cited in the Gospels as being resurrected: the daughter of Jairus (Mk 5:41); Lazarus (Jn 11:44); and here, the son of a Jewish woman. Many others were resurrected at Jesus' crucifixion (Mt 27:51-53). These miracles of restored lives pointed to the authority of Jesus and his resurrection with a glorified body.*

*“When a woman who  
had lived a sinful life  
in that town learned  
that Jesus was eating  
at the Pharisee’s  
house, she brought an  
alabaster jar of  
perfume, and as she  
stood behind him at  
his feet weeping, she  
began to wet his feet  
with her tears. Then  
she wiped them with  
her hair, kissed them  
and poured perfume  
on them.”*

*Luke 7:37-38*



## DAY 10

# Faithless Fear or Fearless Faith

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Luke 8:1-56

**OPENING**  
up to the Word

What do you fear? (a) old age, (b) sickness, (c) poverty, (d) public speaking, (e) heights, (f) storms, (g) enclosed spaces.

**DIGGING**  
into the Word

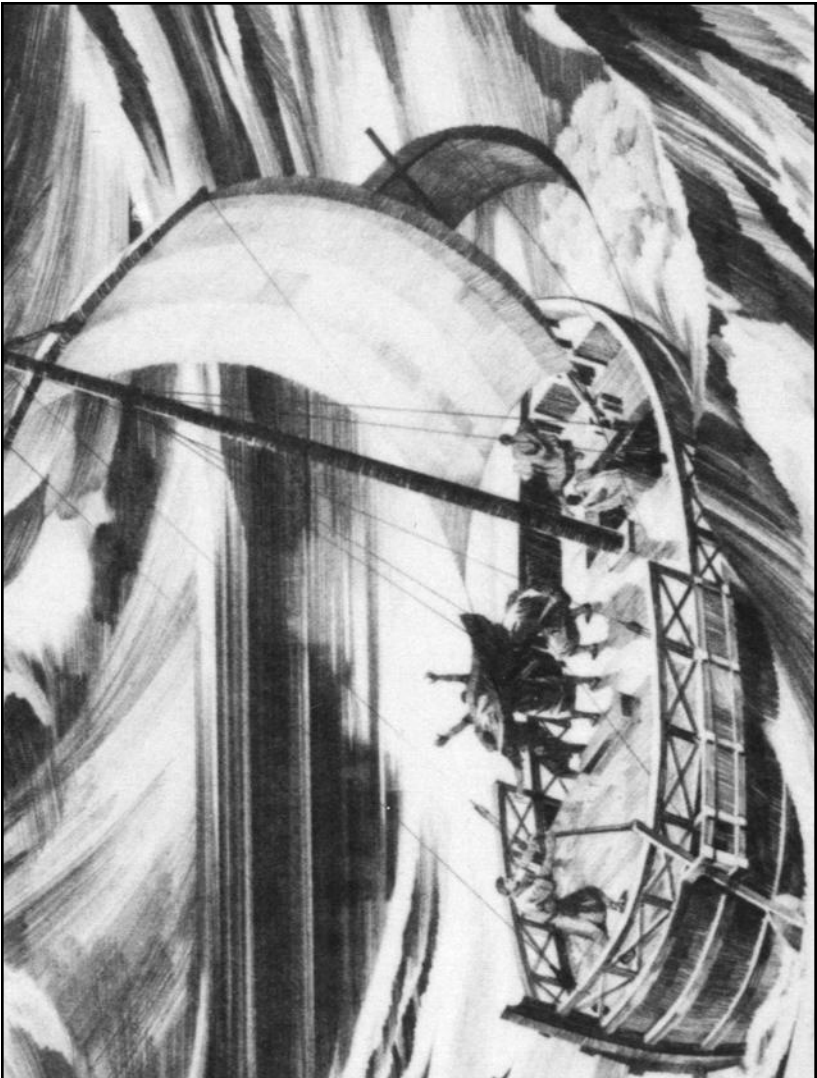
1. Who was with Jesus in the Galilean ministry (v. 1)? How were women important to the preaching of the gospel?
2. In the parable of the farmer who was sowing seed, list the four areas upon which seed fell (vs. 4-8). How long did the seed last in each condition? How does this parable relate to the ongoing work of Jesus (vs. 9-18)?
3. How does fear of the storm (vs. 22-25) and fear of demons (vs. 26-39) point to the divine nature of our Savior? Where was the disciples' faith?
4. Notice each verse in this chapter using these terms: (a) hear(ing), (b) believing, (c) faith, (d) fear and afraid.
5. How is faith in Jesus defined in the life of Jairus, the synagogue ruler (vs. 40-42, 49-56)? And in the woman with chronic bleeding (vs. 43-48)? How did Jesus have power over death?

**LIVING**  
out the Word

1. How important are women in the ministry of the Word? Do you support their service? Their leadership?
2. Which "thorns" of this world scratch you most?
3. What are you doing to nurture the seed in your life? What is God doing to further your growth?
4. "Where is your faith?" (v. 25). Is it in Jesus and his power of salvation? Is it strong in storms (v. 22-25)? In the face of the "demons" of the secular world (vs. 26-38)? In sickness and death (vs. 40-56)?

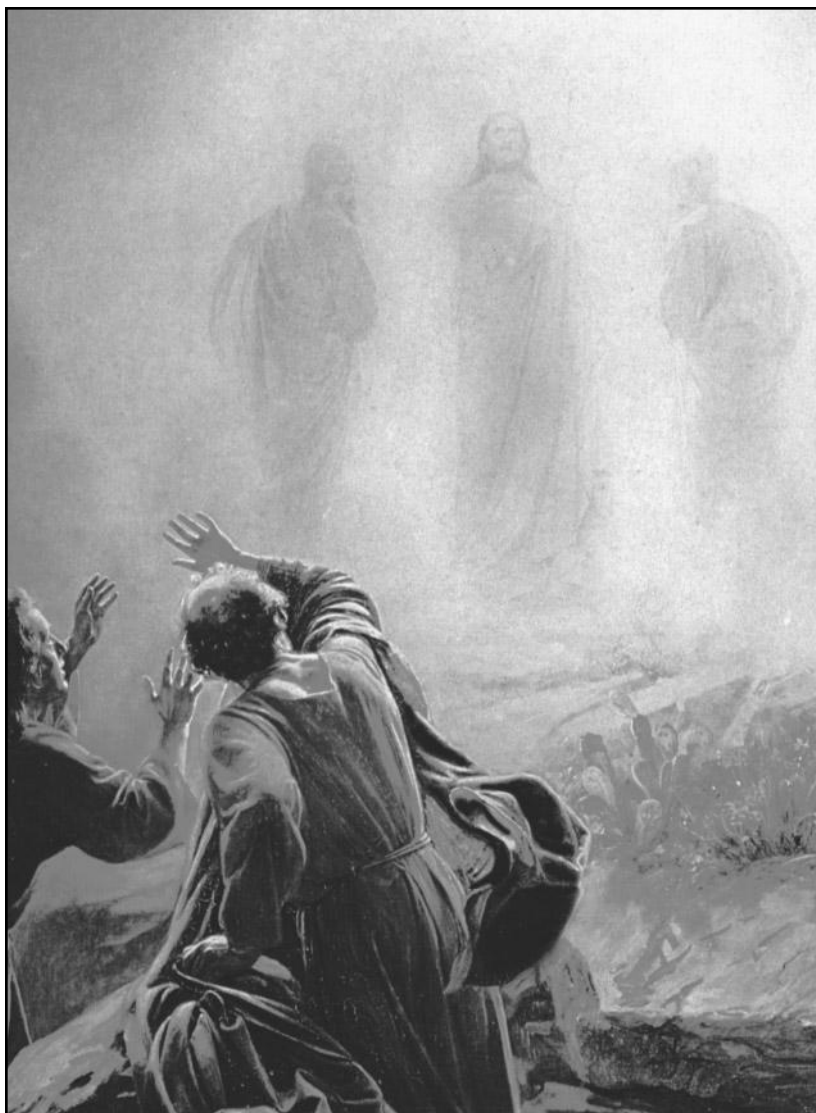
**WINDOW**  
on the Word

*The region of the **Gerasenes** (v. 26) lies on the east shore of the Sea of Galilee. This land was mostly inhabited by gentiles. One of their staple foods was pork, which was an unclean food for Jews (Lev 11). Jesus, the sinless lamb of God, goes into an unclean land, deals with unclean spirits and heals "unclean" people.*



*“The disciples  
went and woke  
him, saying,  
‘Master,  
Master, we’re  
going to  
drown!’ He got  
up and rebuked  
the wind and  
the raging  
waters; the  
storm subsided,  
and all was  
calm.”*

Luke 8:24



*“As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus.”*

Luke 9:29-31



# Road Map for Ministry

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DAY 11

Luke 9:1-36

What two people would you like to see have a discussion with Christ? What subjects would you like to hear them talk about?

1. What were Jesus' instructions to the Twelve for their ministry (vs. 1-6)?
2. Why did the ministry of Jesus upset Herod Antipas, the ruler of Galilee and Perea (vs. 7-9)?
3. How did Jesus' ministry to physical needs set the table for his ministry to spiritual needs (vs. 10-17)?
4. How was Jesus identified (vs. 18-22)? By the crowds? By Peter? By Jesus himself?
5. How did Jesus first predict his suffering and death (v. 22)? How was his first reference to the cross applied to the disciples (vs. 23-27)?
6. How was Jesus seen in the Transfiguration (vs. 28-36)? What is his relationship to Moses, the receiver of the Law at Mt. Sinai? To Elijah, a great prophet in the Old Testament?

1. Has your hospitality extended to the poor who cannot return the favor (12-17; 6:32-35)? How does this action extend God's grace?
2. What symbolism for today do you see in the bread and fish?
3. Are you ashamed of Jesus or proud of him? How do you show it?

***Evangelism*** (spreading the good news of the kingdom) was performed by preaching and attested to by healings (vs. 1-2). The disciples were to take no provisions, probably because this was a short mission. They were to rely on the hospitality of the people who would hear the gospel and receive it (see 8:15).

## OPENING

up to the Word

## DIGGING

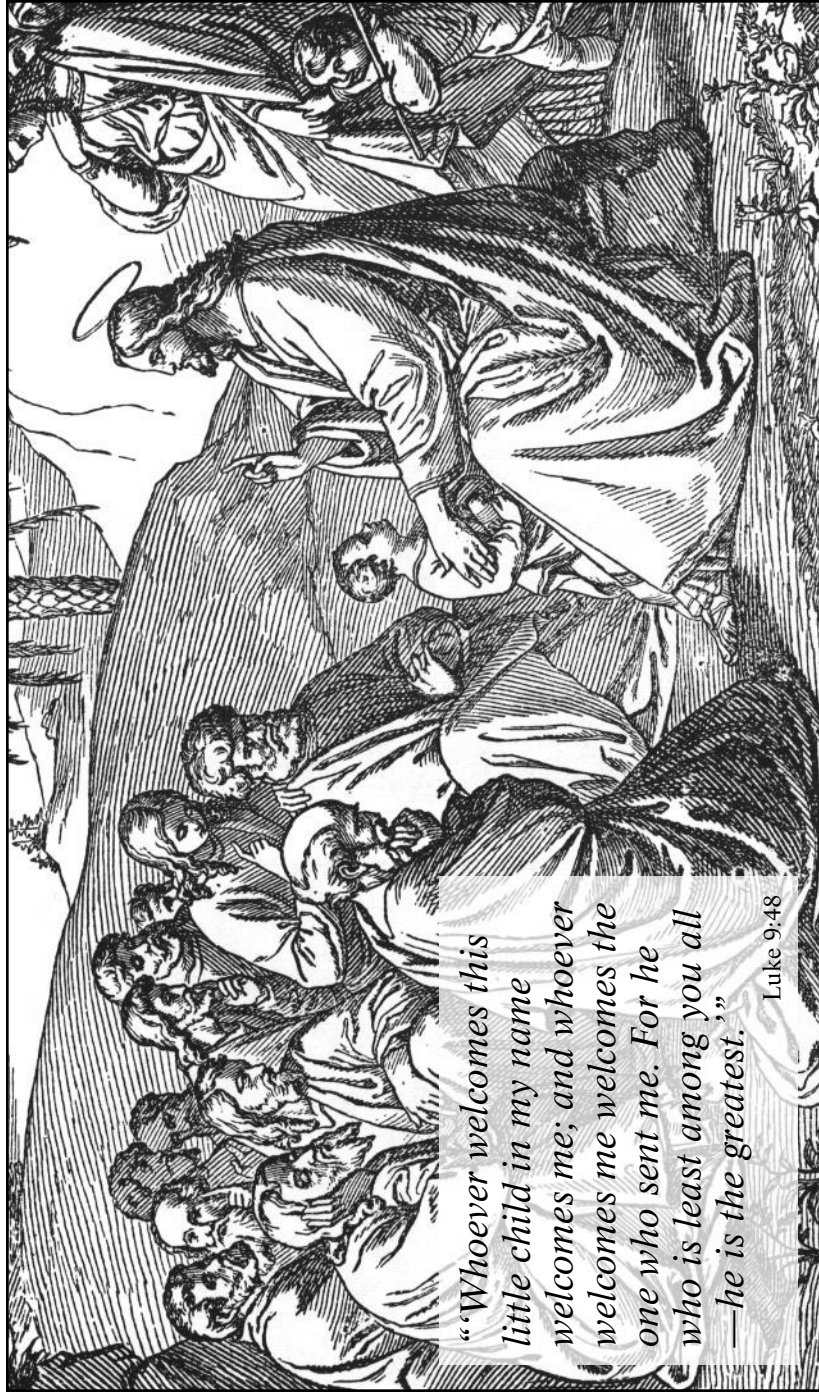
into the Word

## LIVING

out the Word

## WINDOW

on the Word



*“Whoever welcomes this  
little child in my name  
welcomes me; and whoever  
welcomes me welcomes the  
one who sent me. For he  
who is least among you all  
—he is the greatest.”*

*Luke 9:48*

# To Lead or to Lord

DAY 12

Luke 9:37-62

Do you define greatness by: (a) assets, (b) business, (c) Christ, (d) dominance, (e) example, (f) faith, (g) grace, (h) hospitality?

**1.** How did the inability of the disciples to exorcise a demon from the child represent that generation (vs. 37-42)? How did this episode lead to Jesus' second prediction of his passion and death (vs. 43-45)? Did the disciples understand?

**2.** How did squabbling among the disciples lead to teaching about servant leadership (vs. 46-50; see Mk 9:33-41)?

**3.** Why should the disciples have been gracious in the face of inhospitality (Lk 9:51-56)? What was their first inclination?

**4.** How difficult was the life-style of Jesus during his ministry (vs. 57-62)? Was his call, "Follow me," easy for the disciples? Were these individuals looking for excuses to put off full commitment to Jesus?

**1.** What makes you feel great or important?

**2.** How do you interact with children? Are they important enough for you to listen to them?

**3.** Have you ever wanted to call fire down from heaven on anyone?

**4.** Where is the Christian balance in serving one's own family and serving the family of God?

*Jesus refers to himself over 80 times as the **Son of Man**. This phrase links his divinity to his human nature and mission. He is also called the Son of God (Lk 1:35; Mt 8:29) and the Son of David (Mt 9:27), but most often he calls himself the Son of Man.*

## OPENING

up to the Word

## DIGGING

into the Word

## LIVING

out the Word

## WINDOW

on the Word



*“He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.”*

Luke 10:34

# Good News From the Good Samaritan

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Luke 10:1-42

What are your top priorities for today? (a) eat, drink and be merry, (b) make money, (c) be hospitable, (d) trample snakes.

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**1.** Why did Jesus send the disciples out in pairs? How were they to rely on others' hospitality (vs. 2-4)?

**2.** What was the message from these missionaries (vs. 5-16)?

**3.** In the parable of the good Samaritan (vs. 25-37)—the story seems to be focused against the religious leaders. How is Jesus the Good Samaritan?

**4.** What was Martha's mistake (vs. 38-42)? What does Jesus set as the highest priority?

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**1.** What warning would you give the cities of today's world about God's judgment (vs. 5-16)?

**2.** What brings you deepest joy? (a) power over snakes and scorpions, (b) power over people, (c) healing the sick, (d) being a child of God.

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***The road from Jerusalem to Jericho** is steep, descending 3,300 feet in altitude to the Jordan Valley. Many priests who served in the Temple lived in Jericho. Their trip to Jerusalem of about 17 miles was fraught with danger from bandits. As they journeyed to Jerusalem, the priests were concentrating on arriving at the Temple in a state of purity, enabling them to serve. The **Samaritans** had been brought to populate the land of Israel when its people were removed to Assyria during the time of Shalmanezar. Samaritans and Jews were typically hostile toward one another.*

DAY 13

## OPENING

up to the Word

## DIGGING

into the Word

## LIVING

out the Word

## WINDOW

on the Word

*“He said to them, ‘When you pray,  
say: “Father, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come. Give us each day  
our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for  
we also forgive everyone  
who sins against us.  
And lead us not into  
temptation.”’”*

*Luke 11:2-4*



# Sweet Power of Prayer

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DAY 14

Luke 11:1-28

What person do you communicate with most easily? What makes that person easy to talk to?

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**1.** Do you think Jesus intended his model prayer (vs. 2-4) to be repeated word for word, or do you believe he intended it as a general example of how we should talk to God—or both?

**2.** *Beelzebub* was known as the pagan Lord of the Flies (v. 15). How does he, as Satan (v. 18), rule a corrupt kingdom (vs. 14-28)? How is God's kingdom represented in this chapter (vs. 2, 13, 20, 28)?

**3.** Upon whom does the blessing of God fall (vs. 27-28)? Which is the greater family relationship, physical or spiritual?

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**1.** Consider each line of the Lord's prayer. In your own words, reflect on these issues in your talk with God today.

**2.** Just what is the kingdom of God? Is God's will being done by his people now on earth? Is the kingdom of God on earth a mere shadow of the glory in heaven where God's reign is complete? See Hebrews 12:22-24.

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*The **Lord's Prayer** provides a timeless example of issues about which we can talk to our Father. Note the shorter version here, compared to Matthew 6:9-13. This prayer is Jesus' only reference to God as "our Father." Elsewhere, Jesus refers either to "my Father" or "your Father." In doing so, Jesus shows his relationship to God differs qualitatively from ours. We are merely human, while Jesus was fully God and fully man.*

## OPENING

up to the Word

## DIGGING

into the Word

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out the Word

## WINDOW

on the Word