**BCM Bible Study August 26-27, 2015**

**Luke**

Have fun.

Ask questions. Any question that is sincerely asked is a great question.

Answer questions. Contribute to the conversation, being careful not to dominate the discussion.

Respect and affirm each other. Listen attentively and be open to each other. If you feel genuine appreciation for a person’s idea or insight, tell them.

Stay on task. Try to find answers from the session’s Scripture passage. If our group regularly goes off on tangents, we may never get anywhere.

Be open to spiritual growth.

**Intro**

Luke and Acts are a set of stories from the same person (“Luke”) and to the same person (“Theopholis”) as we gather from the introduction of both books. Where Acts tells “the story of the church,” Luke tells “the story of Jesus,” how the promised Jewish Messiah is man, God, son, and the Savior of the Whole World. It tells most of joy, praise, and Jesus’ relationship with all kinds of different people and those considered outcasts. His audience is mostly non-Jewish, like us. Luke was a companion of Paul, most likely a Gentile himself (which would make him the only non-Jewish author in the NT) and an educated man and doctor.

Luke takes look at Jesus through the eyes of those who actually witnessed him, and then told their story.

**Read Luke 1:1-4**

What do you learn about the Gospel of Luke and why it was written?

Suppose Luke just came in your dorm room or apartment and told you excitedly about his investigation. He’s been talking to eyewitnesses about Jesus and putting together an orderly account. What would you like him to investigate, to find out about Jesus, to hear from eyewitnesses? If you were Theopholis, what would you like to know?

**Read Luke 4:14-21** – Jesus’ Mission statement quoted from the Old Testament book of Isaiah 61:1-2

What did the Old Testament Scriptures mentioned in this passage say about Jesus? Who is he, and what is his mission? What in this passage was surprising or intriguing for you? What strikes you most about his authority or mission?

From what little or much you know about Jesus, what part of his mission statement sticks out to you the most? (Preaching the gospel, helping people to be free to really live, performing acts of mercy, working for fair and just social structures, celebrating God’s grace to disheartened people, etc.)

Throughout Luke we’ll see how he fulfills each of these then and now, physically and spiritually. If we are to be followers of Jesus, we should be following 14-21, his mission.

What is it that you would most like to learn about or experience with Jesus in the coming weeks?

What do you hope to gain from studying Luke *with* your family group? To get the most out of it, what will you put into it? How will you share yourself with the family – study, prayer, outreach, leadership, confidentiality and safety, accountability?

**Spend some time in prayer as a group asking Jesus to reveal Himself to you in deep and powerful ways.**