

Jesus Was A Spirit-Filled Messenger

February 2, 2025 ▪ Ryan Wildauer

Jesus was _____ of the _____.

Jesus was a _____ of _____ to a broken world.

Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴ And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." (ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: What would you say is the mission of your life? What makes your mission the same as the mission of all believers, and what makes your mission unique to you and your situation?

Read & Discuss: Luke 4:14-21

1. Verse 14 says Jesus "returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee." And in verse 18, Jesus applied the phrase "the Spirit of the Lord is upon me" to Himself. What have we learned so far in Luke about the Holy Spirit's work in Jesus' life? Why do you think Luke wants us to know this? How can we better operate in the power of the Spirit ourselves? (*For example, see Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7; Ephesians 3:16-17.*)
2. What can we learn about Jesus' attitude toward Scripture from the way He view it in this passage (vv. 16-17, 20-21)? What should this mean for the way we treat Scripture? Are there ways that you (or we) could be critiqued for how you (or we) use Scripture? How can you (or we) improve?
3. In verses 18-19 Jesus quotes from Isaiah 61:1-2. What does this passage reveal about the heart of God? What do each of these phrases from this passage mean in the context of Jesus' mission?:
 - a. "proclaim good news to the poor"
 - b. "proclaim liberty to the captives"
 - c. "recovering of sight to the blind"
 - d. "set at liberty those who are oppressed."
 - e. "proclaim the year of the Lord's favor"
4. If we are the recipients of God's grace through Jesus, what does this passage (vv. 18-19) teach about how we should think of ourselves? What does it suggest about how we should understand our role and purpose in the world? What are some practical ways we can better engage in that purpose both as individuals and as a community?
5. How do you think the people in the synagogue might have related to Jesus statement in verse 21, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing"? How would you summarize what Luke wants his readers to know at this point about Jesus?

Apply: What is one way you can better align your life with Jesus' mission?

Pray: Pray that by the Holy Spirit's help we'd be people who are eagerly and actively proclaiming the Gospel message to a people who desperately need to know of Christ's love for them.