

Luke 4:14-32

More Than A Carpenter

Luk 4:14-15 NIV

14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

The Context or Background of the Story

- **There was an electric atmosphere** - News About Him Spread Abroad
- **It was as a direct result of the power of the Spirit**
- **How can a person keep silent** when the LORD does great things?

Mat 9:23-33 gives a sample of the kinds of things that were happening:

- **He raised a dead girl ...** 26 And the report of this went through all that district
- **He opened blind eyes ...** 31 - he said don't say anything, but they spread his fame through all that district.
- **He cast out demons ...** 33 the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel.

Vision & Application

I look forward to a day coming for "greater works" to be seen

- Joh 14:12 ESV "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and ***greater works than these will he do***, because I am going to the Father.
- Rom 15:18-19 NIV I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done-- 19 ***by the power of signs and wonders, through the power of the Spirit of God.*** So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, ***I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.***

Under the power of the Holy Spirit - ***our evangelism will move beyond the point of arguments and debate***, and people will be amazed, filled with awe and wonder...and praise and glory will rise to Jesus because of the wonderful things He is doing and word will spread

Luk 4:16-19 NIV - Bringing Definition to the News

16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

The Amazing Powerful Mission of Messiah

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath **anointed me**

- to **preach the gospel** to the [**poor**=helpless, afflicted and humble]

- to **heal** the brokenhearted [like pottery broken to shivers]
 - Brokenhearted - Backsliders - Hos 6:1 Let us return - he will **bind** up our wounds
 - Lost and straying - Ezekiel 34:16 I search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured
 - Broken by life in this world - Ps 147:3 he heals the brokenhearted and binds their wounds

- to **preach deliverance** to the **captives** = prisoners of war
 - slaves to sin
 - slave to Satan - healed or set free a woman who for 18 years had been bound by Satan

- **recovering of sight** to the blind (to set free from prison of spiritual blindness)

- to **set at liberty** them that are bruised -

- To **preach the acceptable year** of the Lord....He stops mid-way in this verse - it continues "and the day of vengeance of our God"

He opens the scroll and reads the great passage about the work that the Messiah would accomplish - things that HE WAS ALREADY DOING and THINGS THEY WERE HEARING ABOUT

- Israel was hoping for, waiting for, anticipating the coming of Messiah
- This was probably a well known and most often quoted Scripture - "Amen"

Acts 10:38 KJV How God **anointed** Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: **who went about doing good**, and **healing all that were oppressed of the devil**; for God was with him.

Luk 4:20-22 NIV - Amazing Announcement

20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 He began by saying to them, "**Today this scripture is fulfilled** in your hearing." 22 **All spoke well of him and were amazed** at the gracious words that came from his lips. "**Isn't this Joseph's son?**" they asked.

- He rolls it back up and gives it to the attendant
- He sits down - **rabbis taught "by sitting down"**

"**Today this scripture is fulfilled** in your hearing."

- This was both **amazing** and **unbelievable**
 - **Amazing** because it seems to make sense what they have seen and heard
 - He is saying "**I Am the Messiah**"
 - **Unbelievable** because "this is the carpenter's son"

Luk 4:23-24 NIV - Their ANSWER to new information

23 Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, '**Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.**'" 24 "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown."

What happened in Capernaum? - They responded to Messiah

Mar 1:21-34 ESV... And they went into Capernaum

- He cast a demon out of a man in the synagogue
 - The people were **amazed** - BUT recognized His authority
- He healed Peter's mother of a fever

Mar 1:32 They brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered together at the door.

What Happened His Hometown?

- Mar 6:1-6 NIV Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?" 3 **Isn't this the carpenter?** Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" **And they took offense at him.** 4 Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." 5 **He could not do any miracles there,** except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6 He was **amazed at their lack of faith.** Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

Their unbelief

- They saw him as a **carpenter** - and missed receiving His ministry as **Messiah**
- They were **offended [Gk Skandalon]** at his wisdom and miracles
- He **Could Do No** miracles there except a few
- KJV say He marveled at their **Unbelief**

APPLICATION: What do you think of Him - How Do You View Jesus?

- How we view him affects what we can receive from him
- Matt 16:15 "Who do you say that I am? "

Luk 4:24-27 NIV

24 "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25 I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. 27 And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed--only Naaman the Syrian."

The simple message of the widow of Zarephath and Naaman - they simply believed and responded

- The widow had to overcome fear - Naaman had to overcome pride
- But there was something inside of each of them that responded and look at the wonderful thing the LORD did for them

The belief or faith of the widow of Zarephath

1Ki 17:8-16 NIV Then the word of the LORD came to him: 9 "Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food." 10 So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" 11 As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread." 12 "As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread--only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it--and die." 13 Elijah said to her, "***Don't be afraid.*** Go home and do as you have said. ***But first make*** a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. 14 For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: "The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land." 15 ***She went away and did as Elijah had told her.*** So there was food every day for ***Elijah*** and for the ***woman*** and ***her family***. 16 For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

Naaman the Leper

2Ki 5:10-14 NIV Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "***Go, wash yourself*** seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." 11 But Naaman went away angry and said, "***I thought that*** he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage. 13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" 14 ***So he went down and dipped himself*** in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

APPLICATION:

We hear so much about what Jesus does

We hear testimonies

We read about it in the bible

BUT WHAT ABOUT MY CIRCUMSTANCE?

- Will I bring my need to Him

HOW DO I SEE JESUS?

- Carpenter's son? - or Messiah

Luk 4:28-32 NIV

Luk 4:28-31 NIV 28 All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. 30 But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way. 31 Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath he taught the people.

How can I deal with Unbelief?

1) Be honest with where you are AND look to change

Mar 9:23-24 NIV "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."
24 Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; **help me overcome my unbelief!**"

2) Allow the hardened heart to be plowed up

Mar 16:14 KJV 14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their **unbelief and hardness of heart,** because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

3) Find encouragement from one another

Heb 3:12-13 KJV Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. 13 **But exhort one another daily,** while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

4) Remember My unbelief does NOT affect the faithfulness of God He remains the same forever

Rom 3:3 KJV For what if some did not believe? **shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?**

5) Find God's promises and stand there

Rom 4:20-21 KJV **He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief;** but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

6) Be confident of God's love

Luk 12:28-32 KJV If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, **O ye of little faith?** 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, **neither be ye of doubtful mind.** 30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. 31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. 32 Fear not, little flock; for it **is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.**

Discussion:

With God's anointing as Messiah, Jesus went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed of the devil...He still does the same today.

- **Take a brief minute and share some good thing the LORD has done in your life for His glory.**

Who is Jesus to You?

Share briefly an example where you were faced with some difficulty in life, yet looked to and held to some aspect of Jesus' character that sustained your faith?

- **Examples:**
(Fear - The Lord is my shepherd)
(Financial need - The Lord my provider)

Overcoming Unbelief

Could you share an example of a time you struggled with unbelief and how the LORD helped you overcome it. It could be because of one of the six things we discussed, or some other way.

1. **Be honest with where you are and look to change**
2. **Allow the hardened heart to be plowed up**
3. **Find encouragement from one another**
4. **Remember my unbelief does NOT affect the faithfulness of God He remains the same forever and I can still trust Him**
5. **Find God's promises and stand there**
6. **Be confident of God's love**

Prayer

For any who are currently struggling in any area - and need to find strength in Jesus.