

This is our last Bible study on Luke's Story of Jesus until next year. From what we have read so far, what would you expect to happen in the rest of the story?

Application

Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

If you are a Christian it is because you have realised that you are sick, and you need help. If you are not a Christian, it is because you still believe you are well, and don't need Jesus' help.

Is this true of you? Discuss.

Jesus does divide people, even today. What this means for us as Christians is we can't expect to be part of the "cool" or "popular" group. There will always be people who dislike us because we belong to Jesus. Are you prepared to experience this? Will you keep following Jesus even when it hurts?

Spend some time praying about these things.

the things that divide us...



Luke 5:27–6:16

Study 8

How do the pictures on the front divide people? Can you think of other examples?

The story so far

Jesus is no ordinary person. His birth was a miracle, he was an exceptional child, and now as an adult he teaches, performs miracles, and even forgives people's sins! He has authority to do these things because he is God's Son, and will become the King who saves his people.

Last week we saw an incredible healing of a paralysed man, which showed that Jesus has authority to forgive sins. We also noted that the religious leaders, the Pharisees, were displeased with Jesus...

Read Luke 5:27–6:16.

Which words need explaining?

At the heart of tonight's passage are the stories in 5:36–39. Discuss as a group what you think these stories mean.

Who do you think "the old" represents? And "the new"?

What we learn here is that Jesus is bringing a new way to relate to God. His coming was always predicted in the Old Testament (so in some ways it's continuous). But his way is still new and different. What do you think 5:39 means?

So we see that Jesus' new way to relate to God will divide people. Some will support him, and others will not.

Take the next 20 minutes or so to read through the passage again. Your job is to discover how each of the 5 episodes relate to "the old", "the new", and Jesus dividing people.

- › Episode One (5:27–32)

- › Episode Two (5:33–39)

- › Episode Three (6:1–5)

- › Episode Four (6:6–11)

- › Episode Five (6:12–16)