

THE ROAD TO EASTER

STORIES OF HOPE
LUKE 15-19

6 BIBLE STUDIES

LENT 2025



STORIES OF HOPE: LUKE 15-19

LENT TEACHING SERIES

PRIMARY AIM

To remind each other of the wonderful hope of salvation that we have in Jesus, so we are motivated to share this hope with others.

SUBSIDIARY AIMS

- To prepare for Easter by journeying through Luke's Gospel.
- To model reading through a Gospel.
- To prepare our hearts for an intentional season of sharing our hope in Jesus.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

St Hilary's is participating in [Hope25](#), a nationwide intentional season of sharing hope in Jesus from Easter to Pentecost in 2025. As part of our preparation for this, both morning and evening congregations will follow a teaching series during Lent from the gospel of Luke called Stories of Hope. St Hilary's will offer Alpha after Easter along with evangelism resources, and so it is hoped this teaching series will complement our strategy.

A feature of the series is that different congregations will cover different parts of each chapter each Sunday. This enables us as a church to thoroughly journey through the gospel. And it is hoped that through the sermon podcasts, everyone will have opportunity to meditate on the gospel hope contained in Luke 15-19.

	Date	Title	Bible
1	Mar-09	Hope for the Lost	Luke 15:1-32
2	Mar-16	A Hope Worth More than Money	Luke 16:1-31
3	Mar-23	Responses of Hope and the Kingdom of God	Luke 17:1-37
4	Mar-30	Hope for Justice	Luke 18:1-17
5	Apr-7	Hope for the Impossible	Luke 18:18-19:10
6	Apr-14	Welcoming the Lord of Hope	Luke 19:11-44

Hope for the Lost

1

Luke 15:1-32

01 Share a time when you lost something important and needed to search for it. What were you thinking and feeling at the time?

02 Read Luke 15:1-10.

03 Why were the Pharisees and teachers of the law upset? (2)

04 What do you notice about the way Jesus answered the accusations against him?

05 What else do you notice about Jesus' two stories in verses 3-10 that communicates the importance and reason for his ministry?

06 Read the Parable of the Lost Son (11-32).

07 What is so shaming about the younger son's request? (12)

08 What are some of the ways people go astray from God?

09 Are there any areas of your own life where you are more tempted to fall away from God?

10 What causes the younger son to finally return? (14-20)

11 What is so remarkable about the Father's reception of the younger son? (20, 22-24, 31-32)

12 Imagine you were in charge of coaching the older brother in his response to the return of the younger son. What advice would you give him based on Jesus' teaching?

13 How can we better encourage our church community to rejoice and welcome back those who were lost?

14 Spend some time praising God for his mercy and love to us.

15 Pray for each other

A Hope Worth More than Money

2

Luke 16:1-31

01 What does a shrewd businessperson look like in today's world?

02 In what ways does use of money lead people astray? (note 15:13)

03 Read Luke 16:1-15.

04 What trouble does the manager find himself in and how does he respond? (v.1-3)

05 Why does the rich master praise the manager? (v.8)

06 What does Jesus want the disciples to learn in verse 9? If we were to apply Jesus' teaching to our lives, how might this work?

07 What is the way to be trusted with 'true riches' according to Jesus? (v.10-13)

08 Why did the Pharisees respond to Jesus so strongly? What do they value highly?

09 Read 16:16-18.

10 What point is Jesus making about the law in verses 16-18?

11 Read 16:19-31.

12 In this parable, what do we learn from:

- the rich man
- Lazarus
- Abraham

13 Looking at the two parables together, what do they teach us about what is important and where we are to place our hope?

14 Pray for each other.

Responses of Hope and 3 the Kingdom of God

Luke 17:1-37

01 How do you prefer to be thanked for doing something?

02 Read Luke 17:1-19.

03 What is Jesus is concerned about in verses 1-4? How might we follow this teaching?

04 How does Jesus respond to the apostles request to 'increase our faith' in verse 6?

05 What attitude does Jesus' teaching seek to warn against? (7-10)

06 Reflect on your attitude to serving God. Are there any areas of your life that you find it most challenging to obey God with a right attitude?

07 What is significant about the Samaritan returning to thank Jesus? (15)

08 Compare the teaching in verses 7-10 to the story of the grateful Samaritan in verses 11-19. What do they teach about how we are to respond to God?

09 Read Luke 17:20-37.

10 Why does Jesus begin to talk about the kingdom of God? (20)

11 How can we understand Jesus saying to the Pharisees that 'the kingdom of God is in your midst'? (21)

12 Jesus cannot refer to the kingdom of God without referring to himself, 'the Son of Man'. Looking over verses 22-37, what can we know about the coming of the Son of Man? Try to summarise.

13 How are we to respond to Jesus words about the future? Where is our hope to be found?

14 Pray for each other.

Hope for Justice

4

Luke 18:1-17

01 Share a recent answer to a prayer that you have prayed.

02 Read Luke 18:1-8.

03 What does this parable teach, according to verse 1?

04 What hope is given for persevering in prayer? (7-8)

05 What does persevering in prayer and praying at all times look like in daily life? Is it attainable?

06 Read Luke 18:9-17.

07 Why did Jesus tell the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector? (9,11)

08 The Samaritan leper was praised by Jesus for giving thanks (11-17). So what was wrong with the Pharisee's prayer of thanks?

09 Why did the tax collector go home justified before God? What did he put his hope and confidence in? (14)

10 How might this parable help you to pray?

11 Who is the kingdom for and not for? (15-17)

12 What is one thing that you can take away from this study, that you can apply into your daily life?

13 Pray for each other.

Hope for the Impossible 5

Luke 18:18-19:10

01 As a person gets richer, they can face less limitations in life and more things are possible. What might you do if you were given over 1 billion dollars?

02 Read Luke 18:18-34.

03 What do you notice about Jesus' answer to the ruler?
(19-20)

04 What is revealed about the ruler's affections towards God and neighbour? (23)

05 What are the disciples so surprised and the ruler so sad at Jesus teaching?

06 What is Jesus' encouragement and promise to the disciples? (27-30)

07 What matters most in God's kingdom? What do we learn about the nature of salvation?

08 How might Jesus' teaching encourage us today and give us hope?

09 How is Jesus' predication of his death and resurrection consistent with his teaching to the rich ruler and disciples? (31-34)

10 Read Luke 18:35-19:10.

11 What hope does the story of the healing of the blind man give us in the kingdom of God?

12 In 19:1-10, Zacchaeus, a wealthy tax collector who has stolen from others, is saved. How does this story compare to the story in 18:18-29?

13 What do we learn about the nature of God's salvation in these stories? What is God's role in salvation and what is our role?

14 Pray for each other.

Welcoming the Lord of Hope

6

Luke 19:11-44

01 Who is the most dependable person you have met?

02 Read Luke 19:11-27.

03 Why does Jesus tell this parable? What were people expecting? (11)

04 In the parable, what do we learn from the king in his instructions (13) and expectations of his servants in his absence?

05 What can we learn from the two good servants and the king's response to them? (15-19)

06 We learn a number of things from the wicked servant. What part did the affections of the servant for his king play in his stewardship of his resources? (21)

07 The king says, 'everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away' (26). What does Jesus mean by this?

08 Read Luke 19:28-44.

09 What does Jesus' foreknowledge of the donkey (29-34) tell us about his role in the following passion narrative?

10 Jesus travels to Jerusalem on a donkey (cf. Gen 49:10-12 and Zech 9:9). Compare the two responses from Jesus' disciples (36-38) and some of the Pharisees (39).

11 What does Jesus mean by verse 40? How does Jesus' prophetic words in verses 41-44 echo the ending of the parable of the ten minas?

12 Given there will be a future day when God's king will return, and knowing what is important to the king, how might we take Jesus' teaching seriously?

13 Jesus brings great hope to this broken world. What is one thing we could do to share this gospel hope with others?

14 Pray for each other.



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