

THE  
**COMFORT**  
OF  
JESUS



## **LUKE 12:22-34**

A treasure that brings comfort

### **Getting started**

Why do you think we worry as much as we do? What do you particularly worry about?

### **Read Luke 12:13-21**

1) What is the context for the passage we're looking at today?

### **Read Luke 12:22-26**

2) From these verses, list as many reasons as you can for not worrying.

### **Read Luke 12:27-31**

3) What additional reasons does Jesus now give for not worrying?

4) Why is it comforting that our heavenly Father knows that we need "such things" as what we eat, wear and drink?

5) When do you think worry might be a sign of "little faith"? (v28) Do you think it always is?

6) Is there a difference between concern and worry?

**Read Luke 12:32-34**

7) List all the things which Jesus tells his disciples to do in these verses.

8) How many of them should we do? Why or why not?

9) What sorts of things in our lives show where "our heart is"?

**Think it over**

- Consider the song/phrase, "Don't worry, be happy." How are Jesus' words different from that?
- Do you find Jesus' words in this passage more of a challenge or a comfort? Why?
- Of all the reasons listed in this passage for not worrying, which one do you find the most comforting?
- What are some practical ways we can use this passage to help comfort each other and the wider community in the current COVID-19 crisis?

## **LUKE 5:17-26**

A miracle that brings comfort

### **Getting started**

Luke often groups the miracles of Jesus together in clusters, with each cluster highlighting something important about Jesus. Skim back over the miracles that Jesus performs in Luke 4:31-5:16. In what ways does Jesus demonstrate his authority? What impression does this give you of Jesus?

### **Read Luke 5:17-19**

1) Try and picture this scene. If you were part of the crowd in the house, what would be some of your feelings?

2) What do you think the paralysed man's friends are expecting Jesus to do?

### **Read Luke 5:20-21**

3) Imagine you are the paralysed man being lowered before Jesus. How would you feel when Jesus announces, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." (v20)

4) Why does Jesus' declaration make the Pharisees angry? Are they correct in their logic?

**Read Luke 5:22-26**

5) Why does Jesus heal the man?

6) In what ways does Jesus' healing the man answer the criticism of the Pharisees and teachers of the law?

7) This is the very first time in Luke's gospel that Jesus calls himself "the Son of Man." Why do you think he chooses now to use that phrase? (you might like to think back to last year and what we discovered about the Son of Man in Daniel, cf Daniel 7:13-14)

**Think it over**

- If you had to pick a climactic verse in this passage, which one would it be?
  
- What aspects of Jesus' personality are on display in this passage? What aspects do you find reassuring? Are there any aspects that you find unsettling?
  
- In this section Jesus seems to be operating on a different priority system to everyone else. Do you ever wish that His priority system was different? If so, how so?
  
- What are some practical ways we can use this passage to help comfort each other and the wider community in the current COVID-19 crisis?