

The Beginning: Luke 1:1-4

Approaching Our Faith with Intentionality

Group Activity: Telephone Pictionary

? Was this an effective way to learn something about your group members' childhoods?

? If you really wanted to learn something about each other's past, what would have been a better way to do it?

Exploring Luke

Luke 1:1-4 (NIV)

¹Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word.

³With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

What do we know about...

? The point in history and the development of the Church when Luke is writing?

? Luke's audience?

? Luke's purpose and approach in writing this account?

Acts 1:1-2 (NIV)

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

Colossians 4:14 (NIV)

[Paul, at the end of his letter to the Colossians, sends greetings from many of those he is ministering with, including Luke:]

¹⁴Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings.

Portions of 2 Timothy 4:6-11 (NIV)

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

⁹Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica ... ¹¹Only Luke is with me...

Philemon 1:24 (NIV)

²³Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings. ²⁴And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.



What do these passages tell us about who Luke was?

Luke Summary	
Context:	Audience:
Purpose/Approach:	Author:



We learn in Colossians that Luke was a doctor. As someone who was likely educated and scholarly, how might this have influenced his approach to writing his Gospel account?

? How might Luke's travelling and ministering with Paul have influenced his writing?

? What has shaped your context for viewing the Gospel?

? What does Luke's approach to writing an account of Jesus' life teach us about how we approach Jesus?

For Discussion and Accountability

? How can you approach your faith in a way that assures you of "the certainty of the things [we] have been taught"?