



ISAIAH

“How [NOT] to Miss Out on Jesus”

Luke 4:14-30; Isaiah 61:1-3

Why do some people receive the words of Jesus so gladly while others reject Jesus and his gospel so abruptly? Are some people just better, more self-aware, and more tuned-in spiritually than others? Can we understand reasons why the gospel of God’s grace elicits a response that either enrages us or humbles us? Today’s sermon will show us how [not] to miss out on Jesus.

1. Spoiler Alert! It's about Jesus.

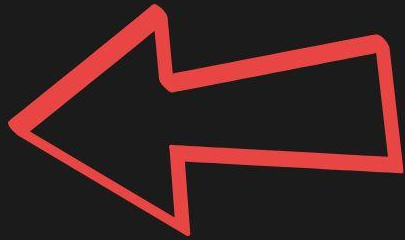
2. How [NOT] To Miss Out on Jesus

3. The Mission of God & Hope Lowertown

MAKING SENSE OF JESUS

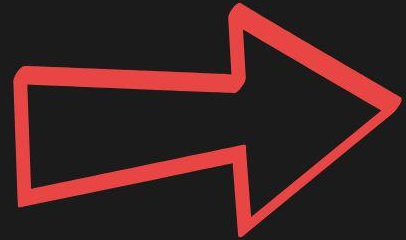


Old Testament *Gospels* New Testament



**SOMETHINGS
GONNA HAPPEN!**

**LIFE,
DEATH,
RESURRECTION
OF JESUS CHRIST**



**WHAT JUST
HAPPENED?!**

Luke 4:14-30

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.

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:

Luke 4:14-30

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.”

Isaiah 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,

What God Promises in Isaiah 61

- A Spirit-anointed & sent bringer of good news to the poor
 - Binding up of the brokenhearted
 - Freedom for the captives
 - Release from darkness for the prisoners
- The year of the Lord's Favor / *Day of Vengeance?*
 - Comfort for the mourning
 - Provision for the grieving
- Joy, praise, the display of God's splendor through his people
- Reversals: Shame → double portion / disgrace → inheritance
 - Praise & righteousness springing up!!

Who is talking here?

Who is this “Spirit-anointed” servant?

Who is this sent one?

Who is this bringer of good news?



SPOILER ALERT!!!



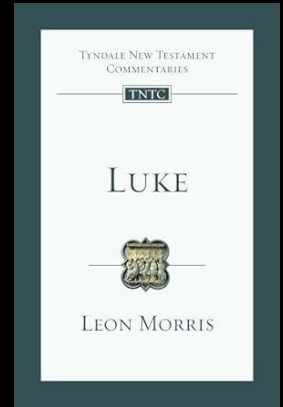
Luke 4:14-30

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.”**

“The name Christ is the Greek translation of the Old Testament word for “Messiah,” and it literally means “the anointed one.” Jesus was anointed by the power of the sovereign God. Jesus came into the synagogue and read the text that promised a future Messiah who would come and minister in the power of the sovereign God, being anointed by God Himself. It was Jesus who was the subject of Isaiah’s prophecy.”

~R.C. Sproul, Luke: The Son of Man Came to Seek and Save the Lost”

“Jesus saw himself as coming with good news for the world’s troubled people. The acceptable year of the Lord does not, of course, represent any calendar year, but is a way of referring to the era of salvation.”



~Leon Morris, *Luke: An Introduction and Commentary*, vol. 3, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1988), 126.

1. Spoiler Alert! It's about Jesus.

2. How [NOT] To Miss Out on Jesus

3. The Mission of God & Hope Lowertown

The People's Response to Jesus: V. 22

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.

“They admired his words, but they were totally unmoved and unaffected by their meaning. They did not see themselves in any of the metaphors, and did not want to. Within themselves they were saying, “We need to see some sign here. We need more than these pretty words...But the debate over evidence aside, Jesus went right to the heart of the matter, which was their spiritual self-sufficiency and pride.”

Excerpt From Luke: That You May Know the Truth, R. Kent Hughes

Luke 4:14-30

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.

Luke 4:14-30

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.”

Elijah & The Widow: 1 Kings 17:7-15

7 Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. 8 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.”

Elijah & The Widow: 1 Kings 17:7-15

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.

Elijah & The Widow: 1 Kings 17:7-15

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.

“Why did she trust Elijah? If she had been like the people of Nazareth, she would have demanded a miracle first. But Elijah insisted that it be otherwise, and without any evidence this Gentile woman gave her last meal to him. Why? Very simply, she realized her absolute poverty and fatal lack of resources. Perhaps if she had had a barreland of flour when she met Elijah, she might have put her faith in her barrel rather than in God. Her blessing was that she was desperately poor, and she knew it.”

~Kent Hughes, Luke: That You May Know the Truth

Naaman Healed of Leprosy: 2 Kings 5

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

2 Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife.

3 She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

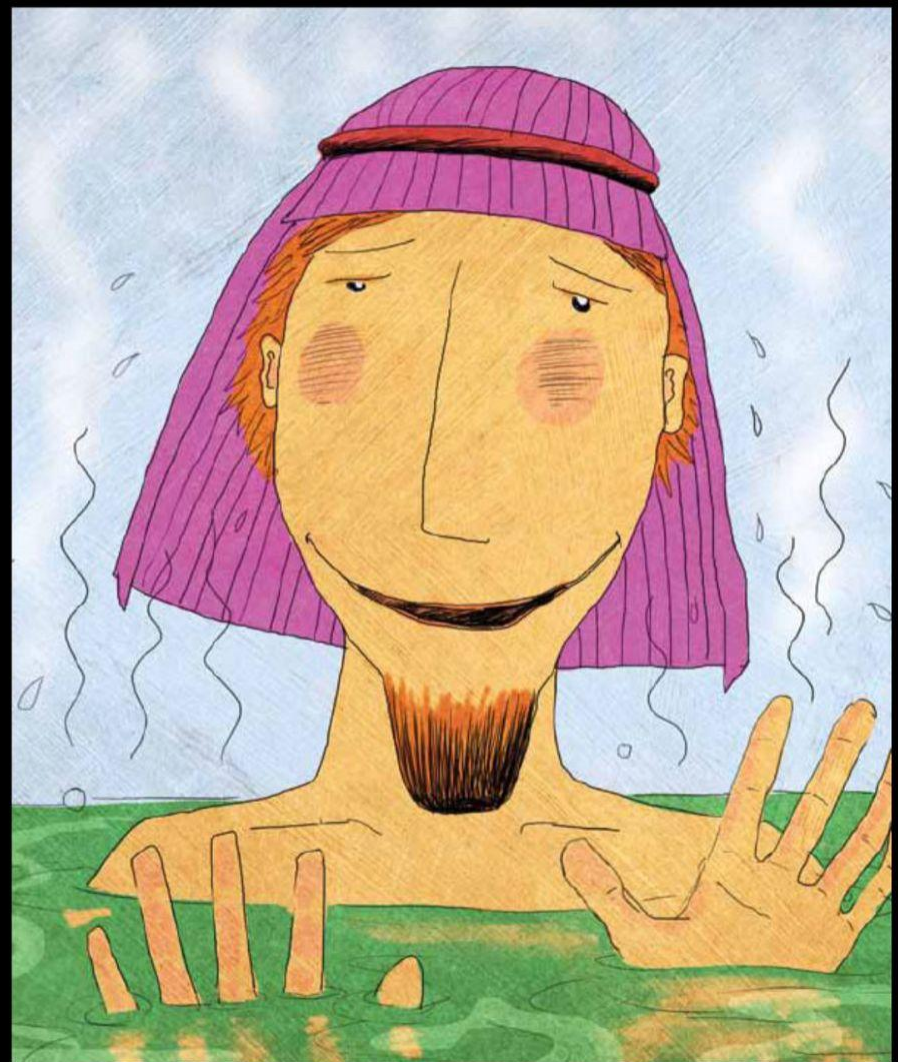
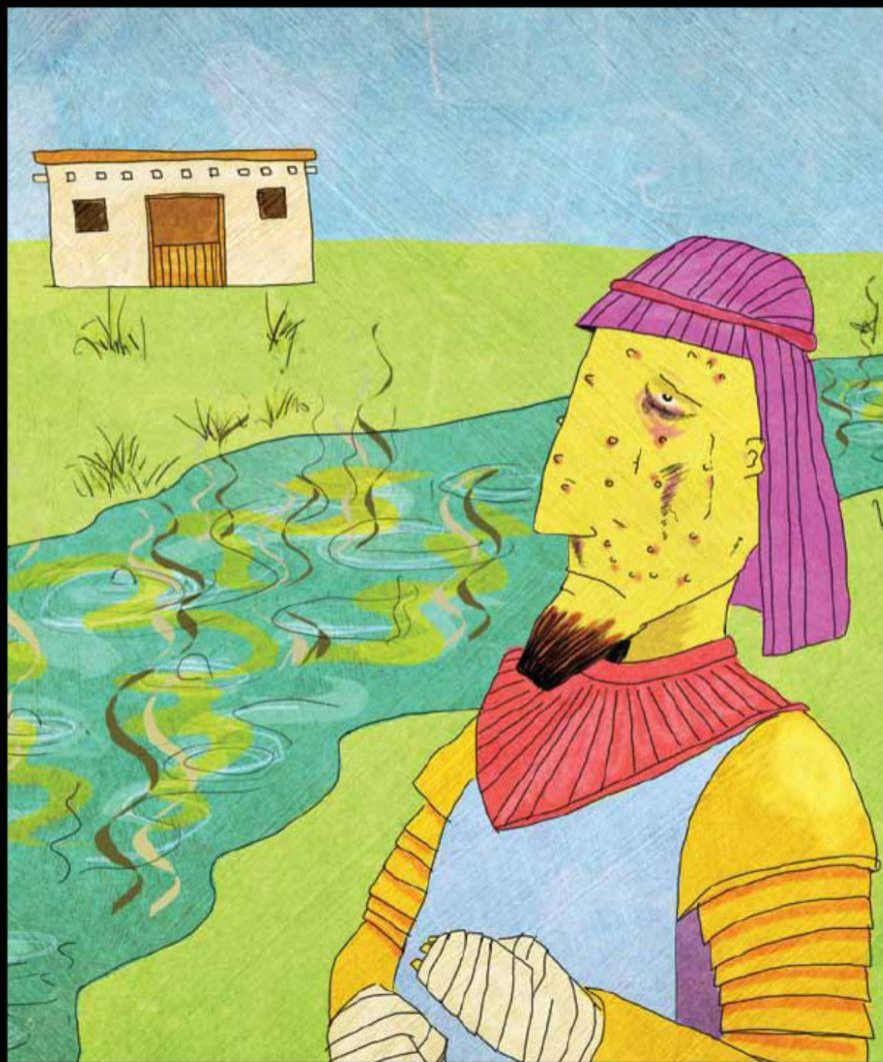
Naaman Healed of Leprosy: 2 Kings 5

9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. 10 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.

“Any person can wash in a river! he thought. I am Naaman. I am important. I should do something important so God will heal me! And he rode off in a rage. (Of course, you and I both know, that’s not how God does things. All Naaman needed was nothing. It was the one thing Naaman didn’t have.)

God knew that Naaman was even sicker on the inside than he was on the outside. Naaman was proud. He thought he didn’t need God. His heart didn’t work properly – it couldn’t feel anything. You see, Naaman had leprosy of his heart. God was not only going to heal Naaman’s skin, he was going to heal his pride.”



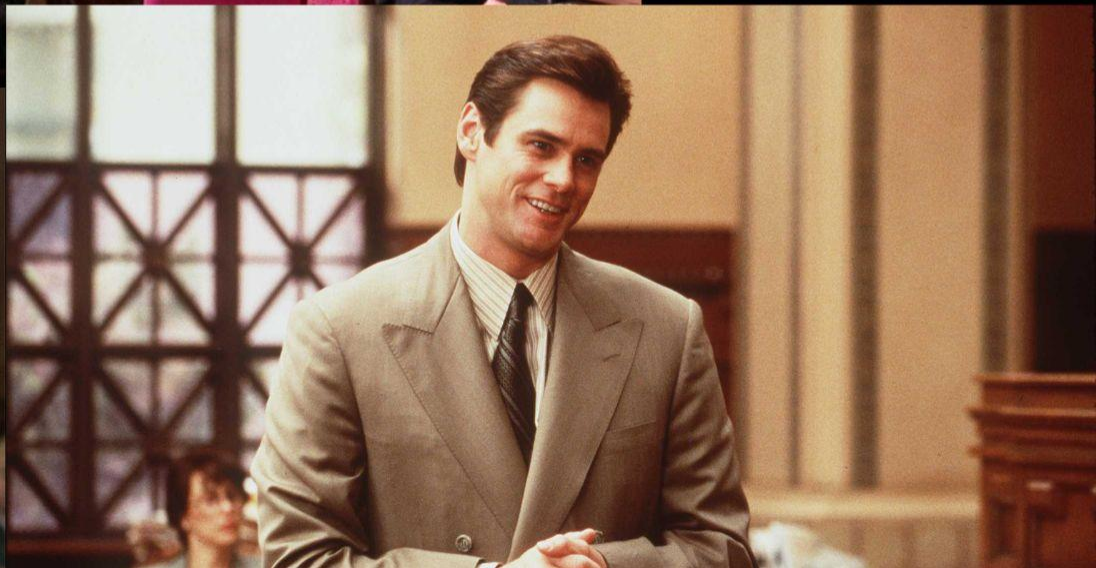
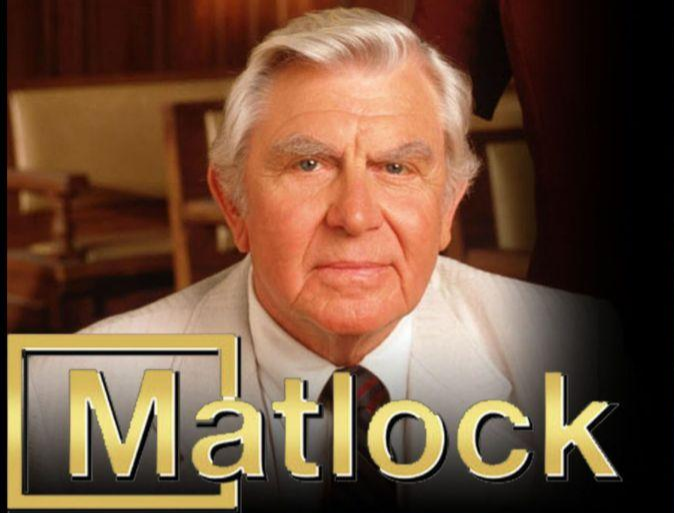
Luke 4:14-30

28 All the people in the synagogue were furios 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.

“What separates us from God and belief in the gospel is not just our sins but also our damnable good works. They separate us from God as long as we think--in the slightest--that they can save us or merit God's favor.”



~ John Gerstner



INNER LAWYER



**"Your honor, my client,
who just so happens to be *me*
...is innocent!"**



F L I G H T





Who Gets In On This?

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.”

What Happens When You GET the Gospel!

You receive spiritual riches!!!

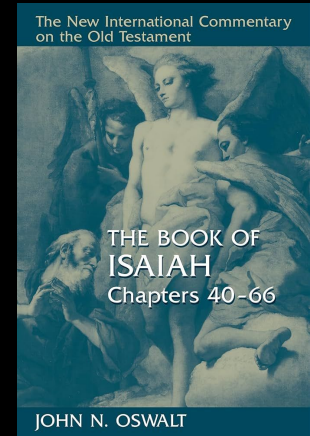
You are set free from the power of sin and death!!!

**You are brought out of darkness into the light of God
and his ways!!!**

Your debts are cancelled and you are redeemed!!!

You get to stop pretending you have it all together!!!

“Here is another of the great paradoxes of this book and of the Bible: try to make ourselves mighty, and we burn ourselves up; admit ourselves helpless and doomed, and God gives us his beauty.”



~Excerpt From The Book of Isaiah, Chapters 40-66 John N. Oswalt

Gospel Basics

God's Spirit regenerates you

through the proclamation of the gospel of God's Son
allowing you to see your need for Jesus

Hearing with faith, you call upon him for *every spiritual blessing* (righteousness, forgiveness, adoption, etc.)

This happens because of God's grace, not your works.

Faith in Jesus + nothing = everything!

1. Spoiler Alert! It's about Jesus.
2. How [NOT] To Miss Out on Jesus
3. The Mission of God & Hope Lowertown

God's Purpose for Us: Ephesians 2:8-10, 3:10-11

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

10 His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, 11 according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.



THE
HOSPITALITY
CENTER



Little Hopes

Planting Churches to Proclaim Jesus

A New Hope Location: Hope North Lakes

- Called & Sent People
- Lino Lakes / White Bear Lakes Region
 - Launching Fall 2025

Prayer For Paul & Team

- Transitions
- A Team + Meeting Space
 - Conversions!!

“He [Jesus] defines his ministry as helping people in trouble, people in bondage, people whose hearts are broken. Whose heart hasn’t been broken?...We live in an age of despair. But it’s a smiling despair, softened by consumer convenience, driving through for a “happy meal” along the way. Into our age Jesus says, “I came to bear your guilty despair far away, and to replace it with joy inexpressible and filled with glory.” He does it single-handedly. He has the Spirit. He has the Word. That’s all he needs to remake the whole world, beginning with you and me. How does he do it? By preaching...”



BELIEVING

**A SPIRITUAL
MIRACLE
HAPPENS!**

HEARING

**GOD'S WORD
WORKS!!**

PREACHING

**WE GET TO
SHARE THE
GOOD NEWS!**

SENDING

**THE CYCLE
REPEATS!**

**JESUS SENDS
US OUT!**

What Happens When We Proclaim the Gospel!

- **Spiritually Poor** people receive (spiritual) riches
- **Spiritually imprisoned** people are set free from the
power of sin and death
- **Spiritually blind** people walking in darkness are
awakened to the light of God and the things of God
- **Spiritually oppressed** and enslaved people have their
debts canceled

Gospel Response

Stop lying to yourself - You Don't Got This!

Say "I Object!" to your inner lawyer

Sing of God's grace!

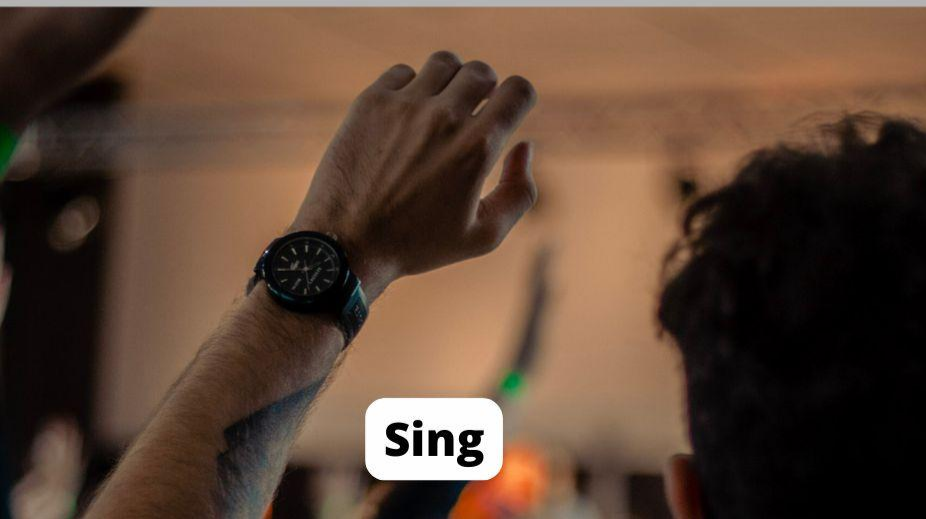
Communion: Four Ways to Respond to God



Pray



Remember



Sing



Give