



Sacred Stops

Sacred Stops
Journey through Galilee
Luke 4:16–30

Sacred Stops Introduction

- Return to Earth
- **Journey through Galilee**
- Detour to Egypt
- Waiting in Bethlehem
- Arriving on Earth

Luke 4:16–30

16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. 17 And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." 22 And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" 23 And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Physician, heal yourself." What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." 24 And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. 25 But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, 26 and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. 27 And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." 28 When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. 29 And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. 30 But passing through their midst, he went away.

What was the mission of Jesus?

Jesus' mission was Spirit-empowered.

- The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me (Luke 4:18a).
- Jesus is the Messiah.
 - "21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."
 - And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness (Luke 4:1).
 - And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country (Luke 4:14).

Jesus' mission was Good News-proclaiming.

- "to proclaim good news to the poor" and "to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18b, 19).
- Jesus declares the gospel.
 - "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3).
 - The gospel is good news for the spiritually poor and the spiritually bankrupt.

Jesus' mission was bondage-freeing

- "He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives" and "to set at liberty those who are oppressed" (Luke 4:18c, e).
- Jesus frees from sin.

- Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin” (John 8:34).
- So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed (John 8:36).

Jesus’ mission was spiritually eye-opening

- “recovering of sight to the blind” (Luke 4:18d).
- Jesus heals sight
 - 39 Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” 40 Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” 41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains (John 9:39–41).
- The spiritually blind can’t see the remedy for their sin, let alone their own sin.

We celebrate Advent because we anticipate Jesus to finish the mission he started.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away (Revelation 21:4).