



Sacred Stops

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Journey through Galilee
Luke 4:16–30

It's that time again! As we enter into the Advent season and approach Christmas, Jesus of Nazareth is on our minds and hearts. With Advent season we are reminded that Jesus will return. So, we learn to watch and wait expectantly! As we journey through Advent, we draw close to Christmas remembering that Jesus has come. So, we celebrate! Jesus' first coming and second coming, however, do not and will not occur in a vacuum. Rather, they occur with real people in real time in real places. This Advent season join Vintage Church as we travel through the *sacred stops*, remembering where Jesus has been and anticipating where he will be.

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

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

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.

- When you think about Jesus' earthly ministry what comes to mind? How would you summarize his ministry?
- In Luke's Gospel and the book of Acts the Holy Spirit plays a prominent role. How does the Holy Spirit play a prominent role in Luke 4:16–30?
- Why does Jesus need the Holy Spirit? Think about this question in light of Jesus' humanity?
- How does it make you feel to know that you have the same Holy Spirit as Jesus had during his earthly ministry?

- Quoting Isaiah 61:1–2, Jesus says he’s come “to proclaim good news to the poor” and “the year of the Lord’s favor” (Luke 4:18–19). What is the “good news” Jesus was proclaiming?
- Jesus also says he came to “proclaim liberty to the captives,” “set at liberty those who are oppressed,” and “recovering of sight to the blind” (Luke 4:18). How did Jesus do this in his earthly ministry?
- Return to Luke 4:18–19. While Jesus did these things in his earthly ministry, the work is still very much incomplete. How does it make you feel, especially during Advent, to look around our world and see the work of Jesus’ incomplete?
- How will Jesus finish his mission when he returns?
- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus will finish his mission when he returns?
- But now we wait and watch for his return. But as we do so, we must work too. Practically speaking, how can you by the power of the Holy Spirit partner with Jesus in his ministry now?