



# Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022



### Take your Pulse

What has you feeling good today?

What is a concern you just can't shake?

### Today's Reading

Luke Chapter 20

Chapter 20 begins with Luke saying Jesus is in the temple telling the good news, after a sequence of parables, the chapter ends with a story where Jesus tells who will receive the greater condemnation. It is an odd twist, for when we hear the phrase “Good News” we think of forgiveness and mercy and compassion, all of which are opposite of condemnation. Yet there is this tension within scripture between when “Good News” is release and newness of life, and when “Good News” is the downfall of human systems of power and privilege. For where one system is brought down, newness of life is given to another.



### Start the Thinking

There are people who are clearly defined as evil, and for whom condemnation is required. But then there are those who appear good, like sheep, but yet are not very good. Jesus condemns the scribes who would have been seen as “Good” in their own time. Who are today's version of those scribes, who would Jesus condemn today for the façade of “good”?



### Conversing with God

O Holy God, your good news breaks systems of power and privilege, exposing the evils of our world and opening the way for all to receive new life in Jesus. Help us to tell the Good News to all so that the cornerstone of your Son may lift us all into newness of life. In your holy name we pray. Amen



### Be blessed

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.