



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022



Take your Pulse

What celebration were you most excited to be a part of?

When do you want to retreat away and just be by yourself?

Today's Reading

Luke Chapter 5

Here we have a random collection of events from Jesus' ministry. This is not necessarily a historical recounting of an exact order, rather Luke says "once" and "Later" as to indicate he is just collecting these stories together in a way that makes sense to his narrative. Simon is afraid of Jesus, much like the unclean spirit before him—"Go away from me," he says, but whereas the unclean spirit was rebuked and cleansed from the man, here Simon is not rebuked, he is invited into a ministry with Jesus. Just as Levi, who was going about his daily business was not rebuked, but again, invited into Jesus' ministry. You know who were not invited into Jesus' ministry? The Pharisees, the ones who declared they were clean by their strict observance of the law, the ones who were upset by how Jesus was ministering to those they decided were "unclean" and "unfit".



Start the Thinking

Day laborers, tax collectors, sinners, in ancient times these categories of people were thought of being the least of society, and not "clean" or "fit" to be with. They were unholy for some reason the Pharisees declared. Who are the "unclean" or "unfit" of our society today?



Conversing with God

O Holy God, sometimes when we experience your holy presence, we are afraid and realize we are not worthy to be in your presence. Sometimes, we feel we are privileged to be in your presence and yet wonder why we are not experiencing your holy presence. Humble us to accept you have declared us clean to be in your presence, and open our hearts to receive with joy all the ways we experience you. In Jesus' 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.