

**Jesus' Ministry in Galilee (1)**  
**Luke 4:14–6:11**

**Memory Verse:** *"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance"* (Luke 5:32 ESV).

**Background Helps:**

Having covered his birth and childhood and his preparation for his mission in the last two weeks, we are now ready to begin a study of Christ's public ministry. For the next three weeks, we will consider Jesus' ministry in Galilee (Lk. 4:14–9:50). (See your course master outline.) Luke shares much of this material in common with the Gospels of Matthew and Mark. This period of concentrated ministry in Galilee probably lasted about 1½ years.

Notice in this week's portion (Lk. 4:14–6:11) some of the general features of Jesus' ministry in Galilee as recorded by Luke:

1. Teaching in the synagogues (4:14-37, 43-44)
2. Performing miracles (4:31-41; 5:1-26)
3. Calling and training his disciples (5:1-11, 27-28).
4. Engaging in controversy with his enemies (5:17–6:11; see also 4:14-30)

Notice also Luke's repeated mention of the impression that Jesus made on the people: 4:14-15, 28, 32, 36-37, 42; 5:9-10, 15, 26; 6:11.

We can see in this section also some of the unique emphases of Luke's Gospel that were mentioned in last week's Forecast: 1) recognition of the Gentiles as part of God's plan (4:25-27); 2) role of the Holy Spirit in Christ's ministry (4:14, 18); 3) Jesus' prayer life (5:16).

**Lesson Helps:**

Here are four alternative lesson ideas:

1. After surveying the various features of Jesus' Galilean ministry as listed above, focus on one of them (e.g., his miracles or his controversies with his enemies).
2. Focus on one of the passages that is unique to Luke's Gospel:
  - Luke 4:14-30, Jesus' rejection at Nazareth. This portion would make an ideal introduction to Jesus' public ministry since in it he announces what his mission is to be (4:18-19).
  - Luke 5:1-11, Jesus' calling of his disciples.
3. Focus on one of the unique emphases of Luke's Gospel, for example, the role of the Holy Spirit. Review Luke 1:15, 35, 41, 67; 2:25-27; 3:16, 22; 4:1. Then study Luke 4:14 and 4:18ff.

4. Examine Luke's portrayal of Jesus Himself—this after all is the main point of his Gospel, to bear witness of Christ!

You will have to choose, after prayer, the lesson idea that seems most appropriate to the needs of your class. Relate the truth to life! This forecast has focused on content, but don't forget to use interest-arousing methods! (See last week's forecast.)

**Home Assignment:**



Read Luke 6:12–7:50



Memorize Luke 6:46