

Centered in Jesus

Jesus the Popular Therapist

Gareth Icenogle

Luke 4:38-44

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Introduction: In Ephesians 2:19 the apostle Paul writes: "...you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God." (NRSV) As we begin a new calendar year and a new era at UPC it is time to ask ourselves the question "What does it mean to live my life with Christ at the center?" In this series, we will look into scripture for pictures of what that looked like for the people of Jesus' time and the early church. The clues we find will help us construct an actionable answer to this question so that we can take stock of where we are and take steps to make Jesus the center of our lives.

Review: What amazing things did you see Jesus do this week?

Read: Luke 4:38-44

Prayer: Our loving God, we come before you to learn more about you. Teach us through these scenes of what you did long ago. Amen

Discussion:

1. Who does Jesus heal in this passage? What responses do these healings provoke?
2. What does Jesus say that his mission is? What might be getting in the way of fulfilling that mission?
3. What part does healing play in Jesus' ministry? See Luke 4:23-27, Matthew 11:1-6, Matthew 15:30-31
4. Why is it important to ask God for help? (See Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 18:1-8, 1 Peter 5:6-7 James 1:5) For what do you need to ask God's help today?
5. How does the church carry out Jesus' mission?

Application: As you pray this week continue to ask God for what you need but also listen for how God wants you to meet the needs of others.

Prayer: Holy God, thank you for speaking to us through the Bible. Show us what you are doing here and now. Amen.