

Series: Arrival Scripture: Luke 1-2 Date: March 21-22, 2020

Message: Revolution

-[LET'S START]-

Let's just start our time this week by acknowledging how much in our life has changed. How are you feeling today? What are some ways that you have been blessed through this trial that we are all facing? What are some ways that we can pray for you during these days?

-[LET'S TALK]-

- 1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** This is normally a time that we share personal prayer requests and gratitude for what God has done in our lives. Let's not stop doing that. But, let's also take some time today in extended prayer for our world. Pray for God's intervention. Pray that God would give you opportunities to have deep spiritual conversations in the days and the weeks ahead. Pray that there would be an openness in people to talk about Christ. Pray for courage to live for Christ and to trust Him in the days ahead.
- 2. This weekend, Pastor Dale began a new sermon series entitled, "Arrival," where he will be preaching through the book of Luke. We spent the majority of our time this weekend in Luke 1:1-4. Read the passage as a group and answer the following questions:
 - Why did Luke write his Gospel?
 - What are the "things that have been fulfilled among us?"
 - Why are the eyewitnesses such an important part of Luke's Gospel?
 - What were Luke's qualifications for writing a Gospel?
- 3. Luke 1:4 has been called one of the key verses in Luke's Gospel. How would Luke's Gospel have added certainty to the faith of Theophilus? What are some things that have added certainty to your faith? How do days like the ones that we are living in rattle or build up your faith?
- 4. The rest of chapter 1 and chapter 2 are passages that we normally read at Christmas time. Read those chapters as a group, pausing after each section (most Bibles have a header before each section of the story). Ask, what did this paragraph teach us about God and what did it teach us about ourselves?

—[LET'S ACT]—

The book of Luke was written, among other reasons, to help give certainty to the faith of Gentile believers. Let's pray for our faith to be sustained and grow during these perilous times.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- If Jesus is the Son of God, how has believing that continued to radically change your life and relationships?
- How does watching your life reveal that Jesus is the Son of God?
- We need to ask ourselves, "Are we/Am I living and leading the revolution that Jesus came to lead and left for his followers to continue leading?"
- In this epidemic that has people paralyzed with fear and worry, the followers of Jesus have an opportunity to demonstrate our faith, love, peace and hope because we have the confidence of who Jesus truly is.
- So what certainty does Luke give to cause us to believe in the deity of Jesus and therefore live boldly for him no matter what is happening to the world?
 - o The Certainty That Jesus Is The Savior The World Has Been Waiting For.
 - The Certainty That No One Is As Unique as Jesus!
 - The Certainty That Jesus Is Legitimate, Not Legendary
 - There were eyewitnesses who knew who Jesus was, what he said and what he did.
 - These eyewitnesses delivered what they saw and heard to others.
 - Luke met and investigated what the eyewitnesses said and is now presenting the facts.
 - Tim Keller says there are three reasons that what the eyewitnesses passed down was legitimate and not legendary or mythical:
 - The timing is too early.
 - The content is too counterproductive for legends.
 - Jesus' birth
 - Jesus' death

- Jesus' resurrection
- The literary style is too detailed.
 - C.S. Lewis, who was a professor of literature at Oxford and Cambridge, put it this way, "I have been reading poems, romances, vision-literature, legends, and myths all my life, and I know what they're like. I know none of them are like this. Of the gospel texts there are only two possible views. Either this is reportage, or else, some unknown ancient writer, without known predecessors or successors, suddenly anticipated the whole technique of modern novelistic, realistic narrative. The reader who doesn't see this has simply not learned how to read."
- o It Is The Certainty Of The Life and Actions Of Jesus That Save Us, Not His Teachings.

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