

What if we could step back in time and uncover the headlines about Jesus—His teachings, miracles, and lifechanging impact? "Knowing Jesus" takes us through the Gospel of Luke like a historical archive, revealing the truth of who Jesus is and what He came to do. Each week, we'll explore His story, moving beyond familiarity into a deeper understanding of the Savior who lived, loved, and gave His life for us all.

The Heart of the Matter -March 2, 2025

- 1. Read Luke 11:37-41 In this passage, Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for being concerned with outward appearances while neglecting the condition of their hearts. How can we apply this to our own lives today? Are there areas where we focus more on outward actions rather than the heart behind them?
- 2. Read Luke 11:42 Jesus rebukes the Pharisees for neglecting justice and the love of God. How do we balance religious practices with a heart for justice and love for others? Can you think of a time when you might have missed that balance?
- 3. Read Matthew 5:14-16 Jesus says that we are the light of the world and should let our light shine. How can we make sure we are not hiding our light, as he describes in Luke 11? What are some practical ways we can live as visible witnesses of Christ in our communities?
- 4. Read Luke 11:34-36 Jesus speaks about the health of our eyes being linked to the light in our bodies. How do you interpret this teaching? How might our vision, in terms of how we see others, affect our spiritual lives?
- **5.** Read Luke 11:46-52 Jesus accuses the teachers of the law of burdening others while not helping them. In what ways can we be more supportive and less judgmental toward others in our faith community? How do we avoid being like the Pharisees in this regard?
- 6. Read Acts 10:34-35 Peter realizes that God shows no partiality and welcomes all people. How does this story challenge us in terms of how we treat others, especially those who might be different from us or those we tend to overlook?
- 7. **Read Psalm 51:10-12** After his sin, David pleads with God to create a clean heart in him. What does this prayer reveal about the kind of heart God desires from us? How can we apply this prayer in our own lives as we seek to become more like Christ?
- 8. **Read Psalm 139.** Make this your prayer: Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (vs. 23 & 24)