

Daily Devotional



David Welsh | “Be _____” Part 7 | February 20 . 21 | Luke 4:31-44

■ day one { is Jesus trustworthy?: Luke 4:31-32 }

Can you remember famous con men who “got away with it” for a long time? Have you ever been swindled by one? How could you have avoided this? Either Jesus was duped by the superstitions of His day, or He pretended that demons were real in order to attract crowds, or demons were in fact a reality. Or could He have cast out lesser demons by the chief devil Beelzebub (Matthew 12:22-29, Luke 11:14-23). How can you test whether a man is who he is and speaks the truth?

■ day two { protection against evil spirits: Luke 4:33-34 }

What is your most compelling reason for believing in the existence of evil? Jesus commands the evil spirit to come out of the possessed man, and to be quiet (verse 35), and the evil spirit obeys instantly. It was not an exorcism, but a proof of the complete authority of Jesus Christ as God's Son. We who obey our Lord in His Spirit find that “even the devils are subject to us through His name.” (John 10:17) And “Greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world” (1 John 4:4). Something to think about: We who possess the Holy Spirit have nothing to fear from an unholy spirit.

■ day three { not in our own power: Luke 4: 36-37 }

What teachers have you known or heard whose speaking style made an unforgettable impression on you? Why do you think that was? A direct correlation exists between Christ's truth and God's power. : If we wish to see the power of God in our lives, we need to read and know the Word of God. Jesus told His disciples, “without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5b). Could much individual and organized Christian work fail because it is not thoroughly based on God's Word? On the other hand, many beloved Christian pioneers put the knowledge of His Word first and were blessed with great victories. Can you name some of them?

■ day four { how does Christ impact our lives?: Luke 4:38-39 }

Can you name some of the many indispensable jobs that receive very little attention and praise? The impact of Christ on an individual's life is not always for a testimony, but so we can do what we are called to do. But our Lord sees them all. "Giving a cup of water" to a little one in the name of a disciple "shall in no wise lose his reward" (Matt. 10:42). God will bless our faithfulness. Write down some of the thing you can do as one of "Christ's disciples." Share that with your pastor.

■ day five { when is all the work done?: Luke 4:40-44 }

Can you remember days and nights in your life when sleep would not come, but you receive strength and peace in prayer? It is in prayer that Jesus, and all of us, find strength and peace in life. Jesus went to pray at an early hour after a very busy day to pray (v. 42). How do you seek to please Him and do all He gives you to do? How do you think we are doing this as a church?

■ a word from the writers

This daily devotional and a weekly bible study for Life Groups that coincides with the current sermon is also available on the church website: ccc.org. We loved to hear your comments or suggestions. Email the writing team at: lampr@ccc.org.