

# Growth Teams

**Week Beginning  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

## **Going deeper**

Christian writers in the second century claimed that Luke wrote the third gospel. This is backed up by the fact that in the sequel to the gospel, Acts, there are a number of so called, 'we' passages, where the writer clearly saw himself as a companion of Paul (Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-21:18; 27:1-28:16). Luke is described as a Paul's colleague (Philemon 1:4) and a doctor (Colossians 4:14), but is not mentioned by name in Acts. However, he certainly fits as the person who was with Paul on these occasions. Furthermore, the style and interests of the gospel would certainly fit those of a professionally trained doctor of the time.

## **Read Acts 21:7-18 – one of the 'we' passages in Acts**

5. Look at a Bible map of Palestine in New Testament times. Try and find all the places mentioned in these verses.
6. How might Luke's travels with Paul have enabled him to access the information needed to write his gospel?
7. Who does Luke say he met in these verses? How might they have helped him research the gospel and Acts? (cf. Acts 6:1-7; 8:4-7, 40; the James mentioned was the brother of Jesus – Gal. 1:18-19)
8. How would you describe Luke's relationship to Paul from what you have read in these verses?
9. How do your answers to the above questions give you greater confidence in what Luke has written in his gospel?

## **Now go back to the 'Applying it to our lives' questions**

## **Growth Teams**

Growth Teams are a wonderful opportunity to go deeper with other Christians. They are a great place to build real friendships and support networks, to pray for one another and to look more carefully at the topics we consider on a Sunday.

This week, as it is the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Luke's, we are looking at the opening verses of St. Luke's gospel.

This is also the last Growth Team for a couple of weeks. In November and December the evening Growth Team will be replaced by: 'How to like the Old Testament again...' a course led by Robin Plant. It starts on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. All are welcome. The daytime groups will start up again that week.



**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever.**

## Luke 1:1-4 (page 1025)

Space to take notes on the talk

Luke's Desire: \_\_\_\_\_

What are we to be \_\_\_\_\_?

a.

b.

How can we be \_\_\_\_\_?

a.

b.

Why do we need to be \_\_\_\_\_?

a.

b.

c.

### Starter question

- What convinced you to become a Christian?

### Responding to the talk

1. Was there one thing that you most agreed with or disagreed with from this week's talk?
2. Read Luke 1:1-2
  - a. What are the sources of Luke's information for writing?
  - b. How reliable do you think these are?
  - c. What does it say about the message that people were writing about it and acting as 'servants of the word'?
3. Read Luke 1:3-4
  - a. What is Luke aiming to do with his account?
  - b. How is he hoping it will help Theophilus and us?
  - c. Why do you think Luke needed to add to what was already written (vs. 1) and the testimony of the eyewitnesses that people would have heard?
4. Read Luke 24:25-27, 32 (The risen Jesus with two disciples on the road to Emmaus).
  - a. How do we know that Jesus 'fulfilled' God's plan?
  - b. Why does Luke describe the accounts about Jesus as 'the things that have been fulfilled among us' (1:1)?
  - c. How does the idea of 'fulfilment' help to convince us?

***You may want to turn over the page for the Going Deeper questions.***

### Applying it to our lives questions:

10. If someone said that you can't believe the Bible because it was all made up by men, how might you try to convince them otherwise?
11. How can we read the Bible in a way that gives us greater confidence in the truth of the gospel?