

## KINGDOM COME

The Year of the Lord's Favor

Luke 4:16-21

December 13, 2015

"Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

-Luke 4:21

### I. THE FOLKS AT HOME

- Jesus had been ministering in Galilee for some time after the Temptation in the wilderness and before returning to his home town. He was becoming well known and respected (Luke 4:14-15).
- His welcome in Nazareth was short-lived. His pronouncement that he fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy of the coming Servant of God was not well received, nor was his commentary on the people of Nazareth (Isa. 58:6; 61:1-2; Luke 4:28-30).

### II. THE MISSION OF MESSIAH

- The mission of Jesus was a mission to:
  1. the poor (Matt. 5:3)
  2. those in captivity (Matt. 6:21; John 8:34; Titus 3:3-7)
  3. the blind (John 9)
  4. the oppressed (2 Peter 2:18-19)

### III. FAVOR: THE POINT OF MESSIAH'S MISSION

- Jesus inaugurated the season of God's favor. Until he returns, "today" is the day of salvation (Romans 2:4; 2 Cor. 6:1-2; Heb. 4:6-8).
- He may not pass this way again in your life. No man or woman knows what tomorrow will bring, or if it will arrive (James 4:13-14).
- Jesus' second advent brings this day to an end (Rev. 22:10-17).

**KNOW:** Jesus inaugurated a time of God's favor upon us. Today is the day of God's favor; now is the day of salvation. Today God has been patient with you, but that day ends with the return of Jesus.

**DO:** Take full advantage of this time of God's favor.

#### Suggested Reading:

*Basic Christianity*, by John R.W. Stott

*The Heart of the Gospel*, by Robert Coleman

#### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

##### Please read Luke 4:16-21

1. Our text for Sunday tells us that Jesus announced the mission of his ministry in the synagogue in his home town. Why would that be a good place for Jesus to do this?
2. It was Jesus' "custom" to go to synagogue on the Sabbath. What does that say to us about our own custom of attending worship on the Lord's Day?
3. Read Luke 4:22-30 and talk about how Jesus' hometown crowd reacted to him. What are your observations?
4. What is our response to those who claim that Jesus' ministry was only about meeting people's immediate needs for justice and peace, not to save people from hell or talk about heaven? How does our passage for Sunday need to be understood?
5. When Jesus quoted "the Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because he has anointed me," what did he mean by that?
6. How do you, personally, react to hearing the mission statement of the Messiah? What does it mean for you?