



March 2/3

WE ARE THEOPHILUS

John Fuller, Senior Pastor

INTRODUCTION

This week, Pastor John begins our seven-week series *Luke: The Gospel for the Rest of Us*. He explains that in writing to Theophilus, Luke set out to write to the “average” person; hence the sermon title “We are Theophilus.” In the first three chapters of his comprehensive Gospel, Luke fills in the blanks regarding some areas of uncertainty about Jesus. To quote Pastor John, “So it was thought... but with God, there’s always more than we thought.”

DISCUSSION

1. **Read Luke 1:3-4 aloud.** As Pastor John stated, “It’s easy to believe a few things about God without really believing God.” Discuss why it’s problematic to have some information about God without more complete knowledge and certainty.
2. Pastor John used passages from chapters 1-3 to help illustrate that life is not random. Discuss how Luke’s accounts of the following help teach us about God’s purposefulness:
Zechariah & Elizabeth Mary & Joseph The Roman Census
Prophecy about John the Baptist Jesus’s Genealogy
3. God chooses to use unexpected, ordinary people for His glory. Who are some of the characters in the first three chapters of Luke who help to illustrate this truth about God? In what ways does this bring encouragement to you in your walk with the Lord? Share with the group.
4. Heaven is not “earned” by anyone. Rather, it is for everyone who loves Jesus and surrenders their lives to Him. **Read Ephesians 2:8-10 aloud.** Discuss how this passage should influence us as a church community as well as individually.

DO SOMETHING

1. In your spiritual journey, is there an area where you have been “told” but would like to grow in knowledge so you can be “certain”? Check the PLC sermon archives for topics you would like to explore deeper. Example: If you would like to better understand for yourself God’s design for sex, listen to or watch the sermon from February 23 & 24, 2019. Invite someone in your life to explore this topic alongside you.
2. As you read and study Luke chapters 1-3 this week, choose one specific verse to memorize and meditate on.
3. Pray and look for ways to share something you’ve learned in these chapters with someone else. Ask your small group or a trusted person in your life to hold you accountable to this.

RESOURCES

1. Pastor John Fuller’s Sermon “Who is Jesus, Really?”
2. Luke videos on The Bible Project
3. “How to Read Luke” on RightNow Media