



MEDITATING ON THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

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but his delight is in Yahweh's law.
On his law he meditates day and night.
He will be like a tree planted by the streams of water,
that produces its fruit in its season,
whose leaf also does not wither.
Whatever he does shall prosper.
(Psalm 1:2-3 WEB)

Your words were found,
and I ate them.
Your words were to me a joy
and the rejoicing of my heart
(Jeremiah 15:16)

Introduction

This meditation guide was inspired by the *Spiritual Exercises* written by St. Ignatius of Loyola five hundred years ago. Born in 1491 in Spain, Íñigo López de Loyola was the youngest of thirteen children. He joined the military at the age of seventeen and served with distinction until 1521 when his leg was severely injured in battle by a cannonball. While recovering, he read a book on the lives of the saints and *Vita Christi* or *The Life of Christ* by Ludolph of Saxony, completed in 1374. These books helped him make a life-changing decision: he would be a soldier for Christ.

In 1522-1524, Ignatius composed the *Spiritual Exercises*, intended to be used during a four-week retreat under the guidance of a spiritual director. The book includes detailed instructions for repentance, prayer, and meditation on the life of Christ.

I have found one section of Ignatius's *Exercises* to be especially useful for personal devotions. Under the heading "Mysteries of the Life of Christ our Lord," the author summarizes individual scenes in the Gospels into one, two, or three points (most commonly three points are used). Readers are encouraged to meditate on each point by using their imagination then conclude with prayer. Here is one of Ignatius's meditations.

OF HOW CHRIST WALKED ON THE SEA

St. Matthew writes Chapter 14 [22-34].

First Point. First: Christ our Lord being on the mountain, made His Disciples go to the little boat. And having dismissed the multitude, He commenced to pray alone.

Second Point. Second: The little boat was beaten by the waves. To which Christ came walking on the water; and the Disciples thought it was an apparition.

Third Point. Third: Christ saying to them: “It is I, fear not,” St. Peter, by His command, came to Him walking on the water. Doubting, he commenced to sink, but Christ our Lord freed him and reprehended him for his little faith, and then, as He entered into the little boat, the wind ceased.

Although these points are brief, they take time to complete when reading imaginatively and prayerfully. This way of reading corresponds with an ancient approach to Scripture called *lectio divina* or sacred reading, which encourages readers to listen to God's voice in Scripture then respond in prayer.

Since Ignatius only includes a few scenes from all four Gospels, “Mysteries” is not comprehensive. Consequently, I decided to expand on Ignatius's approach by applying it to one Gospel. This guide contains 123 meditations so at a rate of one

per day, it will take approximately four months to complete. But the pacing is up to you. You may want to immerse yourself in the life of Christ and do several meditations per day.

How you read is what matters most. As you read the points in each meditation, read slowly and imaginatively, then repeat the process two or three times. Finally, turn your thoughts into a prayer. Space is provided below most meditations if you would like to write out a reflection or even draw a relevant image. Please note that page numbers have not been included because the meditations are numbered and each only uses one page.

Quotations are primarily from the World English Bible. Occasionally, I also cite the Open English Bible. Both the World English Bible and Open English Bible are modern translations in the public domain so they do not have copyright restrictions.

Lastly, my goal was not to reproduce everything in Luke's Gospel so this is not a replacement for reading the third Gospel in its entirety. This is merely a meditation tool for people who want to read the Bible but need extra help to make it easier.

Meditation 1: An Angel Visits Mary (Lk. 1:26-38)

- **First Point:** Two thousand years ago, the angel Gabriel visited Mary in the city of Nazareth in Galilee. He said to her: “Rejoice, you highly favored one! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women!” Mary, probably a young teenager, was greatly troubled by this greeting.
- **Second Point:** Gabriel continued, “Don’t be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and shall name him ‘Jesus.’ . . . The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. There will be no end to his Kingdom.”
- **Third Point:** Mary asked, “How can this be, seeing I am a virgin?” Gabriel gave assurance then Mary replied, “Behold, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word.”

Meditation 2: Mary Visits Elizabeth (Lk. 1:39-45)

- **First Point:** Mary left Galilee, the northern region of Israel, and went with haste to visit her relative Elizabeth, who lived in the hill country of Judah in the southern region of Israel.
- **Second Point:** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice, Elizabeth exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! Why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came into my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy!"
- **Third Point:** Mary declared, "My soul magnifies the Lord. My spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior, for he has looked at the humble state of his servant. For behold, from now on, all generations will call me blessed."

Meditation 3: Birth (Lk. 2:1-7)

- **First Point:** Mary and Joseph traveled about 90 miles (145 kilometers) from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judea to be registered in a census.
- **Second Point:** While they were in Bethlehem, Mary “gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a feeding trough, because there was no room for them in the inn.”
- **Third Point:** An angel appeared to shepherds in the field declaring, “I bring you good news of great joy which will be to all the people. For there is born to you today, in David’s city, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” The shepherds departed quickly to see the baby.

Meditation 4: Shepherds (Lk. 2:8-21)

- **First Point:** The shepherds found Mary, Joseph, and the baby. The baby was in the feeding trough just as they were told.
- **Second Point:** The shepherds told everyone what the angel had told them while they were in the field.
- **Third Point:** “Mary kept all these sayings, pondering them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, just as it was told them.”

Meditation 5: Presented in the Temple (Lk. 2:22-38)

- **First Point:** Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem where they offered a sacrifice and presented him to the Lord.
- **Second Point:** While in the temple, Simeon, an elderly and devout man, held the baby and praised God, saying, “my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all peoples; a light for revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.”
- **Third Point:** At the same time, Anna, a prophetess, came and “gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of him to all those who were looking for redemption in Jerusalem.”

Meditation 6: Conversing in the Temple (Lk. 2:39-50)

- **First Point:** As Jesus grew, he became “strong in spirit” and “filled with wisdom.”
- **Second Point:** As a boy Jesus went to Jerusalem every year with his parents to celebrate the Passover, one of the three annual Jewish festivals.
- **Third Point:** When Jesus was twelve years old, his family was traveling home from Jerusalem when they realized that he was not with them. Three days later they found him sitting in the middle of the teachers in the temple, listening and asking questions.
- **Fourth Point:** His mom scolded him, but he responded, “Why were you looking for me? Didn’t you know that I must be in my Father’s house?”

Meditation 7: Growing up in Nazareth (Lk. 2:51-52)

- **First Point:** Jesus returned to Nazareth with his parents, where he was obedient to them. (Since Joseph was a carpenter and fathers were expected to teach their sons a trade, Jesus would have learned the skill of carpentry from his father.)
- **Second Point:** “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”

Meditation 8: Baptism (Lk. 3:1-23)

- **First Point:** John, clothed in camel's hair and a leather belt, preached repentance and baptized crowds of people in the Jordan River.
- **Second Point:** John announced the coming of someone greater than him: "I indeed baptize you with water, but he comes who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to loosen. He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire."
- **Third Point:** Jesus came and was baptized by John. As he was coming up from the water, the Spirit descended on him like a dove and a voice came out of the sky, saying, "You are my beloved Son. In you I am well pleased."

Meditation 9: Temptation (Lk. 4:1-13)

- **First Point:** After Jesus was baptized, he went into the wilderness, where he ate nothing for forty days.
- **Second Point:** At the end of forty days of fasting, the devil tempted Jesus in three ways. (1) “If you are God’s Son, tell this stone to become a loaf of bread.” (2) After showing Jesus all the kingdoms of the world, the devil said, “I will give you all of this power . . . If you worship me, it will all be yours.” (3) He took Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple and said, “If you are the Son of God throw yourself down from here.” Each time Jesus was tempted he resisted by quoting Scripture.
- **Third Point:** Then the devil left Jesus until an opportune time.

Meditation 10: Rejection in Nazareth (Lk. 4:14-30)

- **First Point:** In Nazareth Jesus went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as was his custom. The scroll of Isaiah was handed to him. He unrolled it and read this passage:

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.

He has sent me to heal the broken hearted,
to proclaim release to the captives, recovering of sight
to the blind, to deliver those who are crushed,
and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

- **Second Point:** He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, then sat down. “The eyes of all in the synagogue were fastened on him.” He said, “Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” He continued by explaining that “no prophet is accepted in his hometown.”
- **Third Point:** In response, his listeners were “filled with wrath . . . rose up, threw him out of the city, and led him to the brow of the hill that their city was built on, that they might throw him off the cliff. But he, passing through the middle of them, went his way.”

Meditation 11: Exorcism in a Synagogue (Lk. 4:31-37)

- **First Point:** Jesus taught in the synagogue on the Sabbath and everyone was amazed at his teaching.
- **Second Point:** A man with an impure voice shouted, “Ah! what have we to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God!”
- **Third Point:** Jesus said, “Be silent, and come out of him!” The demon threw the man down then left him without injuring him. Everyone was amazed at Jesus’ power and news about him spread throughout the region.

Meditation 12: Simon's Mother-in-Law (Lk. 4:38-39)

- **First Point:** Jesus went to Simon's house, where Simon's mother-in-law was sick with a high fever. They begged Jesus to help her.
- **Second Point:** Standing beside her, Jesus rebuked the fever.
- **Third Point:** Immediately the fever left her and she rose up and served them.

Meditation 13: Healings (Lk. 4:40-41)

- **First Point:** At sunset, when the Sabbath had ended, people brought to Jesus those who were sick.
- **Second Point:** Jesus laid his hands on each sick person and healed them.
- **Third Point:** Demons also came out of many, crying out, “You are the Christ, the Son of God!” But Jesus rebuked them and “didn’t allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.”

Meditation 14: An Early Morning (Lk. 4:42-44)

- **First Point:** Jesus woke up early and went to a solitary place.
- **Second Point:** The people looked for Jesus. When they found him they tried to keep him from leaving them.
- **Third Point:** Jesus replied, “I must preach the good news of God’s Kingdom to the other cities also. For this reason I have been sent.”

Meditation 15: Fishing (Lk. 5:1-11)

- **First Point:** Jesus was sitting in Simon's boat a little from the land, teaching the people on the shore. After he finished speaking, he told Simon, "Put out into the deep, and let down your nets for a catch."
- **Second Point:** Simon and his brother Andrew along with James and John had tried catching fish all night but caught nothing. He said, "Master, we worked all night, and took nothing; but at your word I will let down the net."
- **Third Point:** They caught so many fish that their net began to break so they called to their partners in another boat for help. Simon Peter fell down in front of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, Lord." Jesus said, "Do not be afraid. From today you will catch people."

Meditation 16: A Leper (Lk. 5:12-14)

- **First Point:** In one of the towns a man with leprosy fell down in front of Jesus and said, “Lord, If you want to, you can make me clean.”
- **Second Point:** While everyone avoided physical contact with lepers, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I want to. Be made clean.”
- **Third Point:** “Immediately the leprosy left him.”

Meditation 17: Withdrawing (Lk. 5:15-16)

- **First Point:** The news about Jesus spread.
- **Second Point:** Crowds of people came to listen to Jesus teach and to be healed by him.
- **Third Point:** Jesus often withdrew into the desert and prayed.

Meditation 18: A Paralyzed Man (Lk. 5:17-26)

- **First Point:** Jesus was in a house teaching a large crowd of people.
- **Second Point:** Men came carrying a paralyzed man on a cot. Since they couldn't get in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof, removed the tiles and lowered the man in front of Jesus.
- **Third Point:** Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "your sins are forgiven." Then "I tell you, arise, take up your cot, and go to your house." Immediately he rose up, took his cot, and walked out of the house.

Meditation 19: Levi (Lk. 5:27-28)

- **First Point:** Jesus saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at his tax booth.
- **Second Point:** Jesus said to Levi, "Follow me."
- **Third Point:** Levi left everything and followed Jesus.

Meditation 20: Levi's Party (Lk. 5:29-32)

- **First Point:** Jesus went to a great feast at Levi's house. A large crowd of tax collectors and others were enjoying the party. (Tax collectors were considered to be thieves and traitors because they often collected more than they were required to and they were Jews who worked for the Roman Empire.)
- **Second Point:** The scribes and Pharisees objected, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"
- **Third Point:** Jesus answered, "Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are sick do. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Meditation 21: Picking Grain (Lk. 6:1-5)

- **First Point:** While Jesus and his disciples were walking through the grainfields, the disciples began to pick some heads of grain, rub them in their hands and eat the kernels.
- **Second Point:** The Pharisees asked, “Why do you do that which is not lawful to do on the Sabbath day?”
- **Third Point:** Jesus referred to the story of David and his companions entering the house of God and eating the sacred bread, which was only lawful for the priests to eat. Then he said, “The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

Meditation 22: Healing on the Sabbath (Lk. 6:6-11)

- **First Point:** While Jesus was teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath, a man whose right hand was withered was present.
- **Second Point:** The scribes and Pharisees watched Jesus closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath.
- **Third Point:** Jesus, knowing what they were thinking, called the man to the front then said, “Stretch out your hand.” “He did so, and his hand was completely restored.”
- **Fourth Point:** The scribes and Pharisees were “filled with rage.”

Meditation 23: The Twelve Apostles (Lk. 6:12-16)

- **First Point:** Jesus went to a mountain to pray and “continued all night in prayer to God.”
- **Second Point:** In the morning, he chose twelve disciples to be his apostles. (Disciple means “student” and apostle means “sent one.”)
- **Third Point:** The men Jesus chose were not part of the religious leadership of the day. They included fishermen, a tax collector, and a Zealot. And one of them became a traitor.

Meditation 24: Blessings and Woes (Lk. 6:20-26)

- **First Point:** After driving out evil spirits and healing many, Jesus looked at his disciples and said, “Blessed are you who are poor, God’s Kingdom is yours. Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be filled.”
- **Second Point:** Jesus continued, “But woe to you who are rich! For you have received your consolation. Woe to you, who are full now, for you be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe, when people speak well of you, for their fathers did the same thing to the false prophets.”

Meditation 25: Loving Enemies (Lk. 6:27-36)

- **First Point:** Jesus said, “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.”
- **Second Point:** “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them.”
- **Third Point:** “Love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing back; and your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High.”

Meditation 26: Don't Judge (Lk. 6:37-45)

- **First Point:** Jesus said, "Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."
- **Second Point:** He then asked, "Can the blind guide the blind? . . . Why do you see the speck of chaff that is in your brother's eye, but don't consider the beam that is in your own eye? Or how can you tell your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck of chaff that is in your eye,' when you yourself don't see the beam that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First remove the beam from your own eye, and then you can see clearly to remove the speck of chaff that is in your brother's eye."

Meditation 27: Wise and Foolish Builders (Lk. 6:46-49)

- **First Point:** Jesus asked, “Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and don’t do the things I say?”
- **Second Point:** The person who puts Jesus’ words into practice is like a builder who laid the foundation on rock. When the flood came, the house was not shaken.
- **Third Point:** The person who does not put Jesus’ words into practice is like a builder who built a house without a foundation. When the flood came, the house collapsed.

Meditation 28: Great Faith (Lk. 7:1-10)

- **First Point:** Jesus entered Capernaum, where a Roman centurion's servant was sick and about to die. The centurion sent some Jewish elders to Jesus to request him to heal his servant. "Jesus went with them."
- **Second Point:** When Jesus was near the house the centurion sent friends to tell Jesus not to come to his house because he was not worthy. The centurion told Jesus to "say the word, and my servant will be healed."
- **Third Point:** Jesus was amazed and said he had not found such great faith in Israel. The men returned to the house and found the servant well.

Meditation 29: A Widow's Son (Lk. 7:11-17)

- **First Point:** As Jesus approached a town gate, he saw people carrying out a dead person—"the only son of his mother, and she was a widow."
- **Second Point:** Jesus' heart went out to the widow and he said, "Don't cry."
- **Third Point:** Jesus touched the open coffin and said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!" The dead man "sat up and began to speak." Then Jesus gave him to his mother.

Meditation 30: A Question (Lk. 7:18-35)

- **First Point:** John the Baptist sent his disciples to ask Jesus, “Are you the one who is coming, or should we look for another?”
- **Second Point:** After healing many people who had diseases, driving out evil spirits, and restoring sight to the blind, Jesus said, “Go and tell John the things which you have seen and heard.”
- **Third Point:** Jesus said, “I tell you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptizer; yet he who is least in God’s Kingdom is greater than he.”

Meditation 31: A Sinful Woman (Lk. 7:36-50)

- **First Point:** A Pharisee named Simon invited Jesus to have dinner so Jesus went to his house and reclined at the table.
- **Second Point:** A woman who lived a sinful life entered Simon's house with an alabaster jar of perfume. Standing behind Jesus "at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears, and she wiped them with the hair of her head, kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment."
- **Third Point:** Simon was surprised that Jesus allowed a sinful woman to touch him. Jesus responded with a parable then said, "Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus told the woman, "Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

Meditation 32: Traveling Companions (Lk. 8:1-3)

- **First Point:** Jesus traveled from one town and village to another, “preaching and bringing the good news of God’s Kingdom.”
- **Second Point:** The twelve apostles were with him and some women: Mary (called Magdalene), Joanna, Susanna, and many others. Jesus had cured these women from evil spirits and diseases.
- **Third Point:** These women were helping to support Jesus and his apostles “out of their own resources.”

Meditation 33: Parable of the Sower (Lk. 8:4-15)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a parable about a farmer who sows seed. Some seed falls along the path, where it is trampled and eaten by birds; some falls on rocky ground, where the plants quickly wither; some falls among thorns, which chokes the plants; and some falls on good soil, which yields a crop.

- **Second Point:** After the disciples asked for an explanation, Jesus said the seed is the word of God. He then explained the different types of ground. “Those along the road are those who hear, then the devil comes, and takes away the word from their heart . . . Those on the rock are they who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; but these have no root, who believe for a while, then fall away in time of temptation. That which fell among the thorns, these are those who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. Those in the good ground, these are those who with an honest and good heart, having heard the word, hold it tightly, and produce fruit with perseverance.”

Meditation 34: A Lamp on a Stand (Lk. 8:16-18)

- **First Point:** Jesus said that lamps are not hidden. They are put on stands so that everyone can see the light.
- **Second Point:** The light exposes everything: “nothing is hidden that will not be revealed; nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light.”

Meditation 35: Mother and Brothers (Lk. 8:19-21)

- **First Point:** Jesus' mother and brothers went to see him, but they were not able to get near Jesus because of the crowd.
- **Second Point:** Someone told Jesus, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you."
- **Third Point:** Jesus replied, "My mother and brothers are those who listen to God's teaching and do what it says."

Meditation 36: A Storm (Lk. 8:22-25)

- **First Point:** Jesus fell asleep while sailing on the lake with his disciples.
- **Second Point:** A storm arose and the boat was in danger of being swamped. The disciples woke Jesus, saying, “Master, master, we are dying!”
- **Third Point:** Jesus got up and “rebuked the wind and the rushing waves.”
- **Fourth Point:** The storm subsided and all was calm.
- **Fifth Point:** “Where is your faith?” Jesus asked his disciples. The disciples were amazed and said, “Who can this be, who commands even the winds and the waves, and they obey him?”

Meditation 37: Legion (Lk. 8:26-39)

- **First Point:** As Jesus stepped out of a boat, a naked man who had demons fell at his feet and shouted at the top of his voice, “What do I have to do with you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torture me!” This man had been bound with chains and kept under guard, but he had broken the chains and lived in the desert.
- **Second Point:** Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” “Legion,’ he replied, because many demons had entered him.”
- **Third Point:** Jesus gave the demons permission to go into a large herd of pigs nearby. The herd rushed down a steep bank into the lake and drowned.
- **Fourth Point:** When the people went out to see what had happened, they found the man “sitting at Jesus’ feet, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.”

Meditation 38: A Bleeding Woman (Lk. 8:40-56)

- **First Point:** As Jesus walked, crowds of people almost crushed him. One person in the crowd, a woman with a long-term bleeding problem, came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. “Immediately the flow of her blood stopped.”
- **Second Point:** Jesus asked, “Who touched me? . . . Somebody touched me . . . for I felt that power had gone out from me.”
- **Third Point:** The woman fell at Jesus’ feet and explained why she had touched him. He replied, “Daughter, cheer up. Your faith has made you well. Go in peace.”

Meditation 39: A Dead Girl (Lk. 8:40-56)

- **First Point:** A synagogue leader named Jairus fell at Jesus' feet, begging him to come to his house because his twelve-year-old daughter was dying.
- **Second Point:** On the way, someone from Jairus' house delivered this message: "Your daughter is dead. Don't trouble the Teacher."
- **Third Point:** Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid. Only believe, and she will be healed."
- **Fourth Point:** When they reached the house, Jesus only allowed Peter, John, James and the girl's parents to enter with him. Then he took the girl by the hand and said, "Child, arise!" Her spirit returned, and she rose up immediately. He commanded that something be given to her to eat."

Meditation 40: Sending the Twelve (Lk. 9:1-6)

- **First Point:** Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power to drive out evil spirits, cure diseases, and proclaim the kingdom of God.
- **Second Point:** He told them, “Do not take anything for your journey; not even a staff, or a bag, or bread, or any silver, or a change of clothes with you. Whatever house you go to stay in, remain there, and leave from that place. If people do not welcome you, as you leave that town, shake even the dust off your feet, as a protest against them.”
- **Third Point:** They “went from village to village, telling the good news and curing people everywhere.”

Meditation 41: Five Thousand (Lk. 9:10-17)

- **First Point:** Late in the day, the twelve told Jesus, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and farms, and lodge, and get food, for we are here in a deserted place." There were about "five thousand men" present.
- **Second Point:** Jesus replied, "You give them something to eat." They responded, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish."
- **Third Point:** Jesus took the five loaves and two fish and gave thanks. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. "They ate and were all filled" then the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers.

Meditation 42: Peter's Declaration (Lk. 9:18-20)

- **First Point:** Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do the people say I am?"
- **Second Point:** "John the Baptist . . . Others, however, say that you are Elijah, while others say that one of the old prophets has risen again."
- **Third Point:** "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, 'God's Messiah.'"

Meditation 43: Jesus' Prediction (Lk. 9:21-27)

- **First Point:** After Peter confessed that Jesus was God's Messiah, Jesus said that he must suffer, be rejected, be killed, and be raised to life on the third day.
- **Second Point:** Then Jesus said, "If anyone wishes to walk in my steps, they must renounce self, and take up their cross daily, and follow me."
- **Third Point:** He continued, "For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits his own self?"

Meditation 44: The Transfiguration (Lk. 9:28-36)

- **First Point:** Eight days after Jesus said that some of his followers would not die before they see God's kingdom, he took Peter, John, and James with him and went up a mountain to pray.
- **Second Point:** While Jesus was praying, "the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became white and dazzling."
- **Third Point:** Moses and Elijah appeared and talked to Jesus about his departure (or exodus).
- **Fourth Point:** Then a cloud covered them and a voice came from the cloud saying, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him!"

Meditation 45: A Convulsing Boy (Lk. 9:37-43)

- **First Point:** When Jesus and the three disciples came down from the mountain, a man called out to Jesus to heal his son. He said a spirit causes his son to scream, convulse, and foam at the mouth. He brought the boy to the disciples, but they couldn't drive out the evil spirit.
- **Second Point:** Jesus said, "Faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here."
- **Third Point:** While the boy was on the way, the demon threw him to the ground in a violent convulsion. "Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father."

Meditation 46: Welcoming Children (Lk. 9:44-48)

- **First Point:** After Jesus predicted his suffering and death, the disciples argued about which of them was the greatest.
- **Second Point:** Jesus placed a little child beside him.
- **Third Point:** Then Jesus said, “Whoever receives this little child in my name receives me. Whoever receives me receives him who sent me.”

Meditation 47: Correction (Lk. 9:49-50)

- **First Point:** John told Jesus that they stopped a man who was driving out demons in Jesus' name because he was not one of them.
- **Second Point:** Jesus replied, "Don't forbid him, for he who is not against us is for us."

Meditation 48: Rebuke (Lk. 9:51-56)

- **First Point:** Jesus sent messengers into a Samaritan village to prepare things for him.
- **Second Point:** The people did not welcome Jesus, because he was heading for Jerusalem. James and John asked, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from the sky and destroy them, just as Elijah did?”
- **Third Point:** Jesus turned and rebuked James and John then they all went to another village.

Meditation 49: Following Jesus (Lk. 9:57-62)

- **First Point:** A man said to Jesus, "I want to follow you wherever you go, Lord." Jesus replied, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."
- **Second Point:** Jesus told another man, "Follow me!" The man replied, "Lord, allow me first to go and bury my father." Jesus said, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead, but you go and announce God's Kingdom."
- **Third Point:** Another man said, "I want to follow you, Lord, but first allow me to say good-bye to those who are at my house." Jesus replied, "No one, having put his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for God's Kingdom."

Meditation 50: The Seventy-Two (Lk. 10:1-24)

- **First Point:** The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out in groups of two to every place he was about to go. He said, “I send you out as lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, nor wallet, nor sandals. Greet no one on the way. Into whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house.’ If a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in that same house, eating and drinking the things they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Don’t go from house to house. Into whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat the things that are set before you. Heal the sick who are there, and tell them, ‘God’s Kingdom has come near to you.’ . . . Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me. Whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.”
- **Second Point:** “The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!”
- **Third Point:** “In that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit, and said, ‘I thank you, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for so it was well-pleasing in your sight.’”

Meditation 51: A Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37)

- **First Point:** An expert in the law asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus responded with a parable about a man who was attacked by robbers and left half dead on the road.
- **Second Point:** A priest then a Levite saw the man, but both passed by on the other side of the road. Then a Samaritan came and showed pity on the man. He bandaged his wounds then took him to an inn, where he paid the innkeeper to take care of him.
- **Third Point:** Jesus then asked his questioner: “Now which of these three do you think seemed to be a neighbor to him who fell among the robbers?” The man replied, “He who showed mercy on him.” Jesus said, “Go and do likewise”

Meditation 52: Mary and Martha (Lk. 10:38-42)

- **First Point:** Jesus went to Martha's home. Martha had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet, listening to what he said.
- **Second Point:** Martha was busy with all the preparations and frustrated with her sister so she said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister left me to serve alone? Ask her therefore to help me."
- **Third Point:** "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her."

Meditation 53: How to Pray (Lk. 11:1-4)

- **First Point:** After Jesus finished praying, one of the disciples said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples.”

- **Second Point:** Jesus said, “When you pray, say:
‘Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
May your Kingdom come.
May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us day by day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.
Bring us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.’”

Meditation 54: Persistent Prayer (Lk. 11:5-13)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a story about a man who went to a friend's house at midnight and asked for bread. Although the man inside the house may refuse, he will get up if the man at the door is persistent.
- **Second Point:** Jesus continued, "I tell you, keep asking, and it will be given you. Keep seeking, and you will find. Keep knocking, and it will be opened to you."
- **Third Point:** A father would never give his child a stone instead of bread, or a snake instead of a fish, or a scorpion instead of an egg. "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

Meditation 55: A Kingdom Divided (Lk. 11:14-28)

- **First Point:** After Jesus drove out a demon, some said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons.”
- **Second Point:** Jesus said, “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation. A house divided against itself falls. If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand?”
- **Third Point:** Jesus continued, “When the strong man, fully armed, guards his own dwelling, his goods are safe. But when someone stronger attacks him and overcomes him, he takes from him his whole armor in which he trusted, and divides his plunder.”

Meditation 56: The Sign of Jonah (Lk. 11:29-32)

- **First Point:** Jesus said the only sign his wicked generation would be given is the sign of Jonah. Jonah was a sign to the people of Nineveh and they repented at his preaching.
- **Second Point:** The people of Nineveh will condemn Jesus' generation because they repented at Jonah's preaching. And the Queen of the South will condemn Jesus' generation because she came to listen to Solomon.
- **Third Point:** Jesus said, "One greater than Solomon is here . . . One greater than Jonah is here."

Meditation 57: Full of Light (Lk. 11:33-36)

- **First Point:** Jesus said, “No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, that those who come in may see the light.”
- **Second Point:** “The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore when your eye is good, your whole body is also full of light; but when it is evil, your body also is full of darkness.”
- **Third Point:** “Therefore see whether the light that is in you isn’t darkness. If therefore your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly full of light, as when the lamp with its bright shining gives you light.”

Meditation 58: Dinner with a Pharisee (Lk. 11:37-54)

- **First Point:** A Pharisee invited Jesus to share a meal with him. After entering the Pharisee's house, Jesus didn't ritually wash before eating so the Pharisee was surprised.
- **Second Point:** The Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the platter, but your inward part is full of extortion and wickedness. You foolish ones, didn't he who made the outside make the inside also? . . . Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seats in the synagogues, and the greetings in the marketplaces. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like hidden graves, and the men who walk over them don't know it."
- **Third Point:** One of the experts in the law said, "Teacher, in saying this you insult us also."
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus said, "Woe to you lawyers also! For you load men with burdens that are difficult to carry, and you yourselves won't even lift one finger to help carry those burdens."

Meditation 59: Hypocrisy and Courage (Lk. 12:1-12)

- **First Point:** Jesus told his disciples, “Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known.”
- **Second Point:** “I tell you, my friends, don’t be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will warn you whom you should fear. Fear him who after he has killed, has power to cast into Gehenna. Yes, I tell you, fear him.”
- **Third Point:** “I tell you, everyone who confesses me before men, the Son of Man will also confess before the angels of God; but he who denies me in the presence of men will be denied in the presence of God’s angels.”

Meditation 60: Greed and Complacency (Lk. 12:13-21)

- **First Point:** A man in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”
- **Second Point:** Jesus replied, “Man, who made me a judge or an arbitrator over you?’ He said to them, ‘Beware! Keep yourselves from covetousness, for a man’s life doesn’t consist of the abundance of the things which he possesses.”
- **Third Point:** Then Jesus told a parable about a rich man whose ground produced abundantly. The man said, “This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns, build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. I will tell my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years. Take your ease, eat, drink, and be merry.’”
- **Fourth Point:** “But God said to him, ‘You foolish one, tonight your soul is required of you. The things which you have prepared—whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

Meditation 61: Anxiety (Lk. 12:22-34)

- **First Point:** Jesus said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, don’t be anxious for your life, what you will eat, nor yet for your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing.”
- **Second Point:** “Consider the ravens: they don’t sow, they don’t reap, they have no warehouse or barn, and God feeds them. How much more valuable are you than birds!”
- **Third Point:** “Don’t seek what you will eat or what you will drink; neither be anxious. For the nations of the world seek after all of these things, but your Father knows that you need these things.”
- **Fourth Point:** “But seek God’s Kingdom, and all these things will be added to you. Don’t be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. Sell that which you have, and give gifts to the needy. Make for yourselves purses which don’t grow old, a treasure in the heavens that doesn’t fail, where no thief approaches, neither moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Meditation 62: Be Ready (Lk. 12:35-48)

- **First Point:** Jesus told his disciples, “Be like men watching for their lord, when he returns from the wedding feast; that when he comes and knocks, they may immediately open to him. Blessed are those servants whom the lord will find watching when he comes. Most certainly I tell you that he will dress himself, make them recline, and will come and serve them.”
- **Second Point:** “Therefore be ready also, for the Son of Man is coming in an hour that you don’t expect him.”

Meditation 63: Family Divisions (Lk. 12:49-53)

- **First Point:** Jesus said he is distressed until his baptism (suffering) is accomplished.

- **Second Point:** He said that he came to bring division on earth not peace: “For from now on, there will be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. They will be divided, father against son, and son against father; mother against daughter, and daughter against her mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.”

Meditation 64: Interpreting the Time (Lk. 12:54-59)

- **First Point:** Jesus told the crowd that they were able to predict the weather accurately: “A shower is coming,” “There will be scorching heat.”
- **Second Point:** He then asked, “You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and sky, but how is it that you don’t interpret this time?”

Meditation 65: Current Events (Lk. 13:1-5)

- **First Point:** Some people told Jesus about the Galileans who were executed by Pilate.
- **Second Point:** Jesus replied, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all perish in the same way. Or those eighteen, on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them; do you think that they were worse offenders than all the men who dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you, no, but, unless you repent, you will all perish in the same way.”

Meditation 66: A Fig Tree (Lk. 13:6-9)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a story about a man who went to look for figs on his fig tree but didn't find any.
- **Second Point:** He told his gardener to cut it down because he hadn't found fruit on the tree for three years.
- **Third Point:** The gardener answered, "Lord, leave it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit, fine; but if not, after that, you can cut it down."

Meditation 67: A Crippled Woman (Lk. 13:10-17)

- **First Point:** Jesus was teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath. A woman was there who was bent over. She had been crippled for eighteen years.
- **Second Point:** When Jesus saw her, he called her then said, “Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.” After he laid his hands on her, she stood straight up and praised God.
- **Third Point:** The ruler of the synagogue was indignant that Jesus healed on the Sabbath.
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus responded, “You hypocrites! Doesn’t each one of you free his ox or his donkey from the stall on the Sabbath, and lead him away to water? Ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham whom Satan had bound eighteen long years, be freed from this bondage on the Sabbath day?”

Meditation 68: Mustard Seed and Yeast (Lk. 13:18-21)

- **First Point:** Jesus asked, “What is God’s Kingdom like? To what shall I compare it?”
- **Second Point:** He said it is like a mustard seed, which a man planted in his garden and it grew and became a large tree.
- **Second Point:** It is also like yeast, which a woman mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough.

Meditation 69: The Narrow Door (Lk. 13:22-30)

- **First Point:** While Jesus was traveling to Jerusalem someone asked him if only a few people would be saved.
- **Second Point:** Jesus replied, “Strive to enter in by the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will seek to enter in and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen up, and has shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’ then he will answer and tell you, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from’ . . . There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets in God’s Kingdom, and yourselves being thrown outside. They will come from the east, west, north, and south, and will sit down in God’s Kingdom. Behold, there are some who are last who will be first, and there are some who are first who will be last.”

Meditation 70: Sorrow for Jerusalem (Lk. 13:31-35)

- **First Point:** Some Pharisees told Jesus to leave because Herod wanted to kill him.
- **Second Point:** Jesus said, “I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I complete my mission.” He then said that he would be on his way because “no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!”
- **Third Point:** Jesus lamented, “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, like a hen gathers her own brood under her wings, and you refused!”

Meditation 71: Healing at Dinner (Lk. 14:1-6)

- **First Point:** Jesus went to eat in the home of a leading Pharisee. A man was there with abnormal swelling.
- **Second Point:** When Jesus asked if it was lawful to heal on the Sabbath, they remained silent.
- **Third Point:** Jesus healed the man then asked, “Which of you, if your son or an ox fell into a well, wouldn’t immediately pull him out on a Sabbath day?”

Meditation 72: Dinner Advice (Lk. 14:7-14)

- **First Point:** During the meal at the Pharisee's house, Jesus noticed that the guests chose the best seats at the table.
- **Second Point:** Jesus said, "When you are invited by anyone to a wedding feast, don't sit in the best seat, since perhaps someone more honorable than you might be invited by him, and he who invited both of you would come and tell you, 'Make room for this person.' Then you would begin, with shame, to take the lowest place."
- **Third Point:** Jesus told the host not to invite friends or family because then he could be paid back: "But when you make a feast, ask the poor, the maimed, the lame, or the blind; and you will be blessed, because they don't have the resources to repay you. For you will be repaid in the resurrection of the righteous."

Meditation 73: A Great Banquet (Lk. 14:15-24)

- **First Point:** After Jesus gave his invitation advice in the Pharisee's home, someone said, "Blessed is he who will feast in God's Kingdom!"
- **Second Point:** Jesus responded by telling a story about a man who was preparing a great banquet and who had invited many guests. But each person who was invited had an excuse.
- **Third Point:** The master became angry and told the servant to invite the poor, crippled, blind, and lame. Then when the house still had room, he said, "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you that none of those men who were invited will taste of my supper."

Meditation 74: Counting the Cost (Lk. 14:25-34)

- **First Point:** Jesus told the large crowds that followed him, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate their father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brothers, and sisters, yes and even their life, he can be no disciple of mine. Whoever does not carry their own cross, and walk in my steps, can be no disciple of mine.”
- **Second Point:** He then explained that those who build a tower, first sit down and count the cost. Likewise, kings who consider going to war, first count the cost.
- **Third Point:** “So therefore whoever of you who doesn’t renounce all that he has, he can’t be my disciple.”

Meditation 75: A Lost Sheep (Lk. 15:1-10)

- **First Point:** Many tax collectors and sinners were coming to Jesus to hear him teach. The Pharisees and scribes murmured, “This man welcomes sinners, and eats with them.”
- **Second Point:** Jesus asked, “Who among you who has a hundred sheep, and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine out in the open country, and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And, when he has found it, he puts it on his shoulders rejoicing; and, on reaching home, he calls his friends and his neighbors together, and says ‘Come and rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.’ So, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one outcast who repents, than over ninety-nine religious people, who have no need to repent.”

Meditation 76: Two Sons (Lk. 15:11-32)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a story about a man who had two sons. The younger son asked for his inheritance then set off for a far country, where he squandered his inheritance in wild living. In his poverty, he came to his senses then decided to return to his father.
- **Second Point:** “But while he was still far off, his father saw him, and was moved with compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.” After the son confessed his wrongdoing, his father called for the servants to “Bring out the best robe, and put it on him. Put a ring on his hand, and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let’s eat, and celebrate; for this, my son, was dead, and is alive again. He was lost, and is found.” Then the celebration began.
- **Third Point:** The older son refused to join the celebration because he thought it was unfair. His father had never given him a party, but he was now throwing a party for the son who devoured his living with prostitutes.
- **Fourth Point:** The father replied, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But it was appropriate to celebrate and be glad, for this, your brother, was dead, and is alive again. He was lost, and is found.”

Meditation 77: Money and Friends (Lk. 16:1-13)

- **First Point:** Jesus told his disciples about a rich man who had a manager who was accused of wasting his possessions. Knowing that he would lose his job, the manager went to his master's debtors and reduced their loan agreements so that "they may receive me into their houses." The rich man commended his manager because he had acted wisely.
- **Second Point:** Jesus said, "Win friends for yourselves with your dishonest money, so that, when it comes to an end, there may be a welcome for you into the Eternal Home. The person who is trustworthy in the smallest matter is trustworthy in a great one also; and the person who is dishonest in the smallest matter is dishonest in a great one also. So, if you have proved untrustworthy with the dishonest money, who will trust you with the true? And, if you have proved untrustworthy with what does not belong to us, who will give you what is really our own? No servant can serve two masters, for, either they will hate one and love the other, or else they will attach themselves to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

Meditation 78: Lovers of Money (Lk. 16:14-15)

- **First Point:** When the Pharisees, who loved money, heard Jesus' teaching about money, they scoffed at him.
- **Second Point:** He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts. For that which is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

Meditation 79: A Rich Man and a Beggar (Lk. 16:19-31)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a story about a rich man who lived in luxury, while a poor man with sores named Lazarus was placed at his gate to beg. Lazarus longed to eat “the crumbs that fell from the rich man’s table.”
- **Second Point:** Lazarus died and was carried by angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man died and was taken to Hades, where he was “in torment.” When he saw Abraham and Lazarus far away, he cried, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue! For I am in anguish in this flame.”
- **Third Point:** Abraham said, “Son, remember that you, in your lifetime, received your good things, and Lazarus, in the same way, bad things. But here he is now comforted, and you are in anguish. Besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, that those who want to pass from here to you are not able, and that no one may cross over from there to us.”
- **Fourth Point:** The rich man begged Abraham to send Lazarus to his house to warn them about “this place of torment.” Abraham said, “If they don’t listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if one rises from the dead.”

Meditation 80: Stumbling and Forgiveness (Lk. 17:1-4)

- **First Point:** Jesus said to his disciples, “It is inevitable that there should be temptations but sorrow awaits the person who does the tempting! It would be better for them if they had been flung into the sea with a millstone around their neck, rather than that they should cause even one of these little ones to stumble. Be on your guard!”
- **Second Point:** Jesus continued, “If your brother or sister does wrong, rebuke them; but if they repent, forgive them. Even if they wrong you seven times a day, but turns to you every time and says ‘I am sorry,’ you must forgive them.”

Meditation 81: Faith and Faithfulness (Lk. 17:5-10)

- **First Point:** The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.”
- **Second Point:** The Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you would tell this sycamore tree, ‘Be uprooted, and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.”
- **Third Point:** After explaining that faith will result in faithful behavior, Jesus said, “Even so you also, when you have done all the things that are commanded you, say, ‘We are unworthy servants. We have done our duty.’”

Meditation 82: Ten Lepers (Lk. 17:11-19)

- **First Point:** On his way to Jerusalem, Jesus entered a certain village, where ten lepers called out to him, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”
- **Second Point:** Jesus told them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” “As they went, they were cleansed.”
- **Third Point:** One of them who was a Samaritan, returned and fell in front of Jesus, giving him thanks.
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus answered, “Weren’t the ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there none found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?” Then he said to the Samaritan, “Get up, and go your way. Your faith has healed you.”

Meditation 83: Arrival (Lk. 17:20-37)

- **First Point:** The Pharisees asked Jesus when God's kingdom would come. Jesus said the arrival of God's kingdom is not something that can be observed because it was already among them.
- **Second Point:** After telling the disciples not to be deceived, Jesus said, "as the lightning, when it flashes out of one part under the sky, shines to another part under the sky; so will the Son of Man be in his day."
- **Third Point:** Jesus continued, "As it was in the days of Noah, so will it be again in the days of the Son of Man. They were eating and drinking and marrying and being married, up to the very day on which Noah entered the ark, and then the flood came and destroyed them all. So, too, in the days of Lot. People were eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, building; but, on the very day on which Lot came out of Sodom, it rained fire and sulfur from the skies and destroyed them all. It will be the same on the day on which the Son of Man reveals himself."

Meditation 84: A Persistent Widow (Lk. 18:1-8)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a parable to encourage people to always pray and not give up.
- **Second Point:** The parable features a judge and a widow. Although the judge didn't respect God or care about people, when a widow kept coming to him, asking for justice from her adversary, the judge decided to help her "or else she will wear me out by her continual coming."
- **Third Point:** The Lord said, "Listen to what the unrighteous judge says. Won't God avenge his chosen ones who are crying out to him day and night, and yet he exercises patience with them? I tell you that he will avenge them quickly. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Meditation 85: Pride and Humility (Lk. 18:9-14)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a parable to people who thought they were righteous and who despised others.
- **Second Point:** A Pharisee and a tax collector went to the temple to pray. “The Pharisee stood and prayed to himself like this: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men, extortionists, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far away, wouldn’t even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’”
- **Third Point:** Jesus commended the tax collector: “I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Meditation 86: Blessing Babies (Lk. 18:15-17)

- **First Point:** People brought their babies to Jesus so that he would touch them.
- **Second Point:** The disciples rebuked the people.
- **Third Point:** Jesus said, “Allow the little children to come to me, and don’t hinder them, for God’s Kingdom belongs to such as these. Most certainly, I tell you, whoever doesn’t receive God’s Kingdom like a little child, he will in no way enter into it.”

Meditation 87: A Rich Ruler (Lk. 18:18-30)

- **First Point:** A ruler approached Jesus and asked, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
- **Second Point:** Jesus said, “No one is good—except God alone” then he listed the commandments. The man said he had observed all the commandments since he was young.
- **Third Point:** Jesus said, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have, and distribute it to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” The ruler became very sad because he was very wealthy.
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter into God’s Kingdom! For it is easier for a camel to enter in through a needle’s eye than for a rich man to enter into God’s Kingdom.” Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” But he said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

Meditation 88: Jesus' Prediction (Lk. 18:31-34)

- **First Point:** Jesus took the twelve aside and told them that he would be delivered to the Gentiles, mocked, treated shamefully, spit on, scourged, and killed. But on the third day, he would rise again.
- **Second Point:** The disciples did not understand what Jesus was talking about.

Meditation 89: A Blind Beggar (Lk. 18:35-43)

- **First Point:** A blind man was sitting by the road as Jesus was approaching. The blind man heard the crowd and asked what was happening. “They told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.”
- **Second Point:** The blind man shouted out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” When he was told to be quiet, he cried out louder, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”
- **Third Point:** Jesus stopped, commanded the man to be brought to him, then asked, “What do you want me to do?”
- **Fourth Point:** The man said, “Lord, that I may see again.”
- **Fifth Point:** “Jesus said to him, ‘Receive your sight. Your faith has healed you.’ Immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God. All the people, when they saw it, praised God.”

Meditation 90: Zacchaeus (Lk. 19:1-10)

- **First Point:** As Jesus was passing through Jericho, a wealthy tax collector named Zacchaeus wanted to see him. Since Zacchaeus was short, he could not see over the crowd so he ran ahead and climbed a tree.
- **Second Point:** “When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and saw him, and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house.”” Zacchaeus hurried down and received Jesus joyfully.
- **Third Point:** Although the people muttered that Jesus was going to a sinner’s house, Zacchaeus said, “Behold, Lord, half of my goods I give to the poor. If I have wrongfully exacted anything of anyone, I restore four times as much.”
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus said to him, “Today, salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Meditation 91: Ten Minas (Lk. 19:11-27)

- **First Point:** As Jesus was approaching Jerusalem, the people thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately so he told them a parable.
- **Second Point:** A man of noble birth went to a far country to receive a kingdom then return. Before he left, he called ten servants and gave each a mina coin then told them to put the money to work until he returned. (A mina was equivalent to about three months' wages.)
- **Third Point:** When he returned the servants gave an account for how they had used his money. The first two had used it wisely, earning more minas so they were commended and rewarded. But another came and said he had hidden the mina in a handkerchief. The nobleman asked, "Why didn't you deposit my money in the bank, and at my coming, I might have earned interest on it? He said to those who stood by, "Take the mina away from him and give it to him who has the ten minas."
- **Fourth Point:** "For I tell you that to everyone who has, will more be given; but from him who doesn't have, even that which he has will be taken away from him."

Meditation 92: Entering Jerusalem (Lk. 19:28-40)

- **First Point:** When Jesus reached the Mount of Olives outside of Jerusalem, he sent two of his disciples to a village and told them to untie a colt they found and bring it to him. The two obeyed then put Jesus on the colt.
- **Second Point:** As Jesus rode the colt, people “spread their cloaks on the road.” The crowd began to rejoice and “praise God loudly for all the miracles that they had seen.”
- **Third Point:** When the Pharisees told Jesus to rebuke his disciples, he said, “I tell you that if these were silent, the stones would cry out.”

Meditation 93: Weeping Over Jerusalem (Lk. 19:41-44)

- **First Point:** As Jesus approached Jerusalem, “he saw the city and wept over it.”
- **Second Point:** While weeping, he said, “If you, even you, had known today the things which belong to your peace! But now, they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come on you, when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, surround you, hem you in on every side, and will dash you and your children within you to the ground. They will not leave in you one stone on another, because you didn’t know the time of your visitation.”

Meditation 94: A House of Prayer (Lk. 19:45-48)

- **First Point:** Jesus entered the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in it.
- **Second Point:** He said, “It is written, ‘My house is a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a ‘den of robbers!’”
- **Third Point:** Jesus was “teaching daily in the temple, but the chief priests, the scribes, and the leading men among the people sought to destroy him. They couldn’t find what they might do, for all the people hung on to every word that he said.”

Meditation 95: Jesus' Authority (Lk. 20:1-8)

- **First Point:** While Jesus was teaching in the temple courts, he was asked, “by what authority do you do these things?”
- **Second Point:** He responded, “the baptism of John, was it from heaven, or from men?”
- **Third Point:** They reasoned with themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say, ‘Why didn’t you believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From men,’ all the people will stone us, for they are persuaded that John was a prophet.” They answered that they didn’t know where it was from.
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

Meditation 96: Wicked Tenants (Lk. 20:9-19)

- **First Point:** Jesus told a parable about a man who planted a vineyard, rented it to farmers, then went away.
- **Second Point:** At harvest time, the owner sent a servant to get some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat the servant and sent him away empty-handed. They did the same with two more servants. Then the owner sent his son, but the tenants threw the son out of the vineyard and killed him. “What therefore will the lord of the vineyard do to them? He will come and destroy these farmers, and will give the vineyard to others.”
- **Third Point:** Jesus said that this parable illustrates the Psalm: “The stone which the builders rejected was made the chief cornerstone.”
- **Fourth Point:** The chief priests and scribes wanted to arrest him because they knew that he had spoken the parable against them.

Meditation 97: Taxes (Lk. 20:20-26)

- **First Point:** The chief priests and scribes sent spies to trap Jesus in what he said. Their goal was to deliver Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor. The spies asked Jesus, “Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?”
- **Second Point:** Jesus asked for a denarius then said, “Whose image and inscription are on it?” They answered, “Caesar’s.”
- **Third Point:** He said to them, “Then give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” They were astonished by his answer and became silent.

Meditation 98: The Resurrection (Lk. 20:27-43)

- **First Point:** Some of the Sadducees came to Jesus with a question. (Sadducees were a religious group with political power, who did not believe in the resurrection or angels or spirits.)
- **Second Point:** The Sadducees asked Jesus about Levirate marriage, which is when a brother of a deceased man is obligated to marry his brother's childless widow. They presented a scenario in which the process of marriage continues for seven brothers because each died childless, then they asked, "in the resurrection whose wife of them will she be?"
- **Third Point:** Jesus answered, "The children of this age marry, and are given in marriage. But those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. For they can't die any more, for they are like the angels, and are children of God, being children of the resurrection."

Meditation 99: The Scribes' Condemnation
(Lk. 20:45-47)

- **First Point:** Jesus warned all the people to beware of the scribes who “like to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces, the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts; who devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers.”

- **Second Point:** He said, “These will receive greater condemnation.”

Meditation 100: A Widow's Commendation
(Lk. 21:1-4)

- **First Point:** Jesus watched as rich people put their gifts into the temple treasury. Then he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.

- **Second Point:** He said, "this poor widow put in more than all of them, for all these put in gifts for God from their abundance, but she, out of her poverty, put in all that she had to live on."

Meditation 101: Future Trouble (Lk. 21:5-36)

- **First Point:** In response to the disciples who were marveling at the beautiful temple, Jesus said, “the days will come in which there will not be left here one stone on another that will not be thrown down.”
- **Second Point:** They asked, “Teacher, so when will these things be? What is the sign that these things are about to happen?”
- **Third Point:** In reply, Jesus mentioned future wars, earthquakes, famines, and pestilences. He also said they should watch out for false messiahs and be prepared for persecution and even death. But they should not be terrified, “for these things must happen first, but the end won’t come immediately.” When they see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, they should flee to the mountains. Then after signs in the heavens, “they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.” (About forty years after Jesus spoke these words, the Romans conquered Jerusalem and destroyed the temple.)

Meditation 102: Morning and Evening (Lk. 21:37-38)

- **First Point:** Jesus taught in the temple every day.
- **Second Point:** Every evening he went out to the Mount of Olives
- **Third Point:** The people came early in the morning to hear him teach in the temple.

Meditation 103: Betrayal (Lk. 22:1-6)

- **First Point:** The chief priests and scribes were trying to find a way to put Jesus to death.
- **Second Point:** Satan entered Judas, who was one of the twelve.
- **Third Point:** Judas conspired with the chief priests and captains. They were glad and agreed to pay Judas. He sought an opportunity to deliver Jesus to them when no crowd was present.

Meditation 104: The Last Supper (Lk. 22:7-23)

- **First Point:** Jesus sent Peter and John to make preparations for them to eat the Passover.
- **Second Point:** He said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.”
- **Third Point:** During the meal, “He took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.” Likewise, he took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.””

Meditation 105: Arguments (Lk. 22:23-30)

- **First Point:** After Jesus said that one of the disciples would betray him, they argued about who would do it. Then they began to argue about who was the greatest.
- **Second Point:** He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their oppressors are styled ‘Benefactors.’ But with you it must not be so. No, let the greatest among you become like the youngest, and him who leads like him who serves.”

Meditation 106: Peter's Insistence (Lk. 22:31-34)

- **First Point:** Jesus told Peter that Satan had asked to sift all of them as wheat, “but I prayed for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail.”
- **Second Point:** Peter said, “Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death!”
- **Third Point:** Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster will by no means crow today until you deny that you know me three times.”

Meditation 107: Preparation (Lk. 22:35-38)

- **First Point:** Jesus asked the disciples, “When I sent you out without purse, wallet, and sandals, did you lack anything?”
- **Second Point:** They replied, “Nothing.”
- **Third Point:** Then he said to them, “But now, whoever has a purse, let him take it, and likewise a wallet. Whoever has none, let him sell his cloak, and buy a sword. For I tell you that this which is written must still be fulfilled in me: ‘He was counted with transgressors.’ For that which concerns me has an end.”

Meditation 108: Praying and Sleeping (Lk. 22:39-46)

- **First Point:** Jesus went to the Mount of Olives and his disciples followed him.
- **Second Point:** When they arrived, Jesus told them, “Pray that you don’t enter into temptation” then he went away from them and knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”
- **Third Point:** When Jesus returned he found the disciples sleeping. He said, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

Meditation 109: Arrested (Lk. 22:47-53)

- **First Point:** While Jesus was speaking with his disciples about prayer, a crowd appeared. Then Judas approached Jesus to kiss him. Jesus asked, "Judas, do you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"
- **Second Point:** The disciples asked if they should strike with their swords then one of them cut off the right ear of the high priest's servant.
- **Third Point:** Jesus touched the man's ear and healed him.
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus said, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you in the temple daily, you didn't stretch out your hands against me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."
- **Fifth Point:** They seized Jesus and led him away to the high priest's house.

Meditation 110: Peter's Denials (Lk. 22:54-62)

- **First Point:** Peter followed Jesus from a distance then sat in the courtyard and warmed himself by the fire. A servant girl saw him and said, "This man was also with him." Peter replied, "Woman, I don't know him."
- **Second Point:** Someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them!" Peter answered, "Man, I am not!"
- **Third Point:** About an hour later, another person said, "Truly this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean!" Peter said, "Man, I don't know what you are talking about!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter."
- **Fourth Point:** "Then Peter remembered the Lord's word, how he said to him, 'Before the rooster crows you will deny me three times.' He went out, and wept bitterly."

Meditation 111: Beaten (Lk. 22:63-65)

- **First Point:** The guards mocked and beat Jesus.
- **Second Point:** They blindfolded him, struck him in the face, then asked, "Who hit you?"
- **Third Point:** "They spoke many other things against him, insulting him."

Meditation 112: Questioned by the Elders
(Lk. 22:66-71)

- **First Point:** In the morning Jesus was taken to the chief priests and scribes, who said, “If you are the Christ, tell us.”

- **Second Point:** Jesus replied, “If I tell you, you won’t believe, and if I ask, you will in no way answer me or let me go. From now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

- **Third Point:** They asked, “Are you then the Son of God?” Jesus replied, “You say that I am.”

- **Fourth Point:** They said, “Why do we need any more witness? For we ourselves have heard from his own mouth!” Then they led Jesus away to Pilate.

Meditation 113: Questioned by Pilate and Herod (Lk. 23:1-12)

- **First Point:** The elders told Pilate that Jesus claimed to be a king. Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “So you say.”

- **Second Point:** When Pilate told the crowd that he finds no basis for a charge against Jesus, they insisted that he stir up the people from Galilee to Judea. After learning that Jesus was from Galilee, Pilate sent Jesus to Herod, who was in Jerusalem at the time.

- **Third Point:** Herod was glad to “exceedingly glad” to see Jesus because he was hoping to see him perform a miracle. He asked Jesus many questions, but Jesus “gave no answers.”

- **Fourth Point:** Herod and his soldiers humiliated and mocked Jesus, then dressing him in an elegant robe they sent him back to Pilate.

Meditation 114: Sentenced by Pilate (Lk. 23:13-25)

- **First Point:** Pilate called everyone together and said that he found no basis to charge Jesus and neither did Herod. He continued, “I will have him scourged, and then release him.”
- **Second Point:** The crowd shouted, “Away with this man! Release to us Barabbas!”—one who was thrown into prison for a certain revolt in the city, and for murder.” When Pilate spoke to them again, they shouted, “Crucify! Crucify him!”
- **Third Point:** Pilate “delivered Jesus up to their will.”

Meditation 115: Led Away (Lk. 23:26-32)

- **First Point:** The soldiers led Jesus away and forced Simon from Cyrene to carry the cross behind Jesus.
- **Second Point:** Many people followed Jesus, mourning and lamenting.
- **Third Point:** “But Jesus, turning to them, said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, don’t weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming in which they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’”

Meditation 116: Crucified (Lk. 23:33-39)

- **First Point:** At the place called “The Skull,” they crucified Jesus along with two criminals, “one on the right and the other on the left.”
- **Second Point:** Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.”
- **Third Point:** The people scoffed at him, “He saved others. Let him save himself, if this is the Christ of God, his chosen one!” The soldiers mocked him, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” One of the criminals who was on a cross next to him said, “If you are the Christ, save yourself and us!”

Meditation 117: Paradise (Lk. 23:40-43)

- **First Point:** The other criminal beside Jesus defended Jesus: “this man has done nothing wrong.”
- **Second Point:** Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”
- **Third Point:** Jesus said to him, “Assuredly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Meditation 118: Last Breath (Lk. 23:44-49)

- **First Point:** Darkness came over the whole land from about noon to 3 p.m.
- **Second Point:** Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” then breathed his last breath.
- **Third Point:** The centurion, who was standing near the cross, said, “Certainly this was a righteous man.” Those who knew Jesus, including the women who followed from Galilee, watched everything from a distance.

Meditation 119: Burial (Lk. 23:50-56)

- **First Point:** Joseph from Arimathea went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.
- **Second Point:** Joseph "took it down, and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb that was cut in stone, where no one had ever been laid."
- **Third Point:** The women from Galilee watched where his body was laid then they prepared spices and ointments and rested on the Sabbath.

Meditation 120: Empty Tomb (Lk. 24:1-12)

- **First Point:** Early in the morning on the first day of the week, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared.
- **Second Point:** They were “greatly perplexed” when they saw the stone rolled away from the tomb.
- **Third Point:** Two men in dazzling clothes said, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He isn’t here, but is risen. Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee, saying that the Son of Man must be delivered up into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and the third day rise again?”
- **Fourth Point:** The women—Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and others—left the tomb and told everything to the eleven and the others.
- **Fifth Point:** The apostles didn’t believe the women because their words seemed like nonsense. But “Peter got up and ran to the tomb.” He saw the strips of linen lying by themselves and wondered what had happened.

Meditation 121: A Familiar Stranger (Lk. 24:13-35)

- **First Point:** The same day that the women found the empty tomb, two of Jesus' followers were walking to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles (eleven kilometers) from Jerusalem.
- **Second Point:** As they talked with each other about everything that had happened, "Jesus himself came near, and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him." Jesus asked, "What are you talking about as you walk, and are sad?"
- **Third Point:** One of them named Cleopas explained what had happened with Jesus—his miracles, crucifixion, and how the women couldn't find his body in the tomb.
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus explained to them the things concerning himself in all the Scriptures.
- **Fifth Point:** When they came to the village, Jesus acted like he would go farther, but they urged him to stay with them because it was almost evening.
- **Sixth Point:** "When he had sat down at the table with them, he took the bread and gave thanks. Breaking it, he gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, then he vanished out of their sight." The two returned to Jerusalem.

Meditation 122: Appearance (Lk. 24:36-49)

- **First Point:** When the two returned from Emmaus they told the eleven and others what had happened.
- **Second Point:** “Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, ‘Peace be to you.’”
- **Third Point:** They were terrified, thinking they saw a spirit.
- **Fourth Point:** Jesus said, “‘Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is truly me. Touch me and see, for a spirit doesn’t have flesh and bones, as you see that I have.’ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While they still didn’t believe for joy, and wondered, he said to them, ‘Do you have anything here to eat?’”
- **Fifth Point:** They gave him a piece of broiled fish and he ate it in front of them.
- **Sixth Point:** He told them to wait in Jerusalem until they were “clothed with power from on high.”

Meditation 123: Ascension (Lk. 24:50-53)

- **First Point:** Jesus led his followers outside of Jerusalem to the area of Bethany, which was about a two mile (3.2 kilometers) journey. When they arrived, Jesus lifted up his hands and blessed them.
- **Second Point:** While blessing his followers, Jesus was taken up to heaven.
- **Third Point:** “They worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.”