

▼ **The Widow's Offering**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday November 2, 2025

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<http://www.LifeChurchBoston.org/>

▼ **Opening Material**

▼ **Welcome!**

- Praise the Lord!
- Welcome to another Life Church sermon!

▼ **Transition**

- Welcome to another Sunday at Life Church.
- The QR code (also available on our song sheets) links to our Visitor Landing Page.
- Use it to access our notes, share your contact information, and access our giving page.
- Questions? If you took the time to visit us, you deserve to get answers!
- Email: Questions@LifeChurchBoston.ORG
- We are beginning Luke 21.
- We will have Q&A / Discussion after the message, followed by Sunday Connection.

▼ **Thoughts**

▼ **Acts 2:42-43 - The 4 Devotions:**

- The apostles' teaching
- fellowship
- the breaking of bread
- prayer

▼ **Overview**

▼ **In today's message we will do the following:**

▼ **Why are we here?**

- Acts 2:36-39
- Acts 17:29-31
- Review passage - Luke 1:1-4.
- Review passage - Luke 4:14-21.
- Review our passage - Luke 21:1-4

- Explore what Jesus is teaching us.
- Transition to Q&A / Discussion

▼ Opening Material

► Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

▼ Why are we here?

- Acts 2:29-39 - Spoken to Jews

“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah**, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.” ’

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: **God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.**”

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

Peter replied, “**Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off —for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

- Acts 17:29-31 - Spoken to Gentiles

“Therefore, since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. **For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.**”

▼ Welcome to Luke!

▼ Video

- [Bible Project: Luke 1-9](#) - YouTube (00:08:16)
- [Bible Project: Luke 10-24](#) - YouTube (00:07:48)
- [Roland S. Martin: Can Prophetic Voices Impact Policy And Shape Political Agendas?](#) - YouTube (00:09:11)

- Luke 1:1-4

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the

beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

▼ Embrace Jesus' Mission

▼ Luke 4:14-21 (NIV) - The Lord's Spirit Is Upon Me

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

► Setting the Stage

▼ Feed on the Life of Jesus

- Are you “worded up”?
- Eat his flesh; Drink his blood - John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17
- Does the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16 - KJV)?

▼ What if you read a Gospel every month - a chapter a day?

- The Gospel of Luke in November (11/1 – 11/24)
- The Gospel of John in December (12/1 – 12/21)
- The Gospel of Matthew in January (1/1 – 1/28)
- The Gospel of Mark in February (2/1 – 2/16)

▼ For November this means:

- Read Luke 1 on November 1 (yesterday).
- Read Luke 2 on November 2 (today).
- Read Luke 3 on November 3 (tomorrow).

- etc.

- **As you read, write down any questions you have.**

▼ **Ask yourself the following questions:**

- What did this chapter teach me about how Jesus viewed himself, his mission, his relationship to God, and his relationship to others?
- What would I like to better understand about this chapter?
- What did I find challenging about this chapter?
- What did I learn as I tried to apply this chapter to my life?
- Would an outsider who read this chapter recognize that I was trying to apply it to my life?

▼ **Jesus explained his teaching to his disciples:**

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. – Mark 4:33-34 (NIV)

- Did you grow up in church without getting your questions answered?
- Did you grow up apart from church wondering what all the fuss was about?
- Either way, don't be afraid to start from scratch or start over from scratch with someone who can walk you through the Bible so that you can understand God's Kingdom.
- Read and listen to God's Word in community!

▼ **Luke 21:1-4**

As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. **"Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."**

▼ **Parallel / Related Passages**

- Mark 12:41-44

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, **"Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."**

▼ **The Widow's Offering**

▼ **Narrative**

- Jesus sees the people putting their offerings into the temple treasury.

- A widow put in 2 small coins.
- Jesus commends her for having put in everything she had to live on.

▼ Observations / Background

- How did Jesus know that the widow gave all she had to live on?
- In the previous passage, Jesus warned his disciples about teachers of the law who devoured widows homes.
- Notice that Jesus does not stop her from giving her offering.

▼ This story is reminiscent of two other stories about widows who gave everything:

▼ Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath.

- 1 Kings 17:1-16

Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: “Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.”

So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. Then the word of the LORD came to him: “Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

“As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’”

She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

▼ Elisha and the Widow’s Oil

- 2 Kings 4:1-7

The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, “Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves.”

Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?”

“Your servant has nothing there at all,” she said, “except a small jar of olive oil.”

Elisha said, “Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don’t ask for just a few. Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side.”

She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring.

When all the jars were full, she said to her son, “Bring me another one.”

But he replied, “There is not a jar left.” Then the oil stopped flowing.

She went and told the man of God, and he said, “Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left.”

▼ Lesson

- Jesus criticizes people who exploit the vulnerable (e.g. widows).
- Jesus commends a vulnerable person (e.g. a widow) who gives everything.
- ▼ Let your politics & your giving align with what the Bible teaches.

▼ Video

- [Roland S. Martin: Can Prophetic Voices Impact Policy And Shape Political Agendas?](#) - YouTube (00:09:11)
- Church leaders sometimes manipulate people into giving.
- Sometimes people feel manipulated into giving even when that is not the intention of the leaders.
- Base your giving on a broad understanding of what the Bible teaches - not just a few key verses.

► **Discussions, Q&A**



The Widow's Offering

Sunday November 2, 2025



Welcome!



Visitor Page

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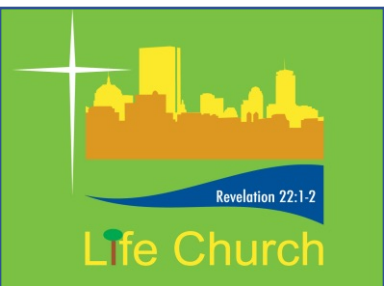
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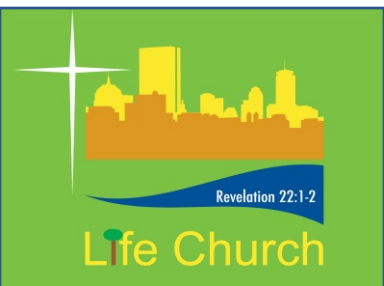
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Thoughts



- Acts 2:42-43 - The 4 Devotions:
 - the apostles' teaching
 - fellowship
 - the breaking of bread
 - Prayer
- Cultural Rivers



Overview



In today's message we will deal with the following:

- Why are we here?
 - Acts 2:36-39
 - Acts 17:29-31
- Review passage - Luke 1:1-4.
- Review passage - Luke 4:14-21.
- Review our passage - Luke 21:1-4
- Explore what Jesus is teaching us.
- Transition to Q&A / Discussion



Why are we here?



Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews

Acts 17:29-31 – Spoken to Gentiles



Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews (1 of 3)

“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. **Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah**, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. **God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.** Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.



Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews (2 of 3)

For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies
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Acts 2:29-39 – Spoken to Jews (3 of 3)

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: **God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.**”

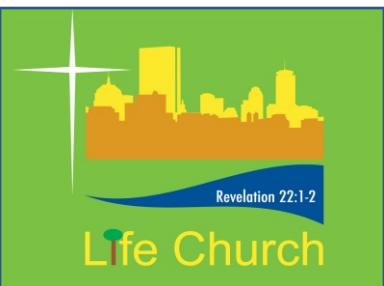
When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

Peter replied, “**Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call.”



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Welcome to Luke!



- Video: Bible Project: Luke 1-9
- Video: Bible Project: Luke 10-24
- Luke 1:1-4 – Luke's Introduction
- Luke 4:14-21 – Embrace Jesus' Mission



Luke 1:1-4 – Luke's Introduction

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.



Embrace Jesus' Mission: Luke 4:14-21

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Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”



Feed on the Life of Jesus (1 of 4)

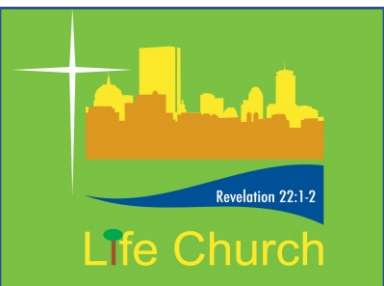
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Eat his flesh; Drink his blood – John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17

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Feed on the Life of Jesus (2 of 4)

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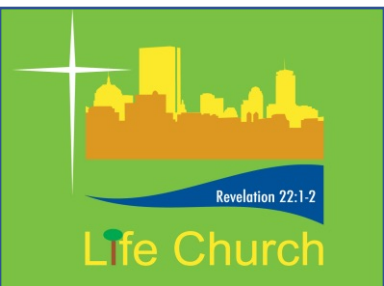


Feed on the Life of Jesus (3 of 4)

As you read, write down any questions you have.

Ask yourself the following questions:

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Feed on the Life of Jesus (4 of 4)

Jesus explained his teaching to his disciples:

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. – Mark 4:33-34 (NIV)

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Luke 21:1-4 (NIV)

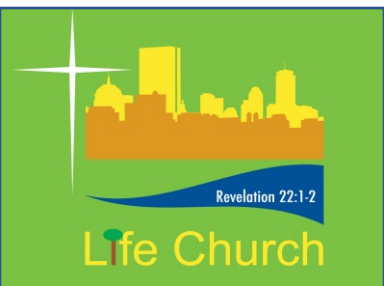
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Mark 12:41-44 (NIV)

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

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Narrative – Luke 21:1-4

- Jesus sees the people putting their offerings into the temple treasury.
- A widow put in 2 small coins.
- Jesus commends her for having put in everything she had to live on.



Observations & Background

- How did Jesus know that the widow gave all she had to live on?
- In the previous passage, Jesus warned his disciples about teachers of the law who devoured widows' houses.
- Notice that Jesus does not stop her from giving her offering.
- This story is reminiscent of two other stories about widows who gave everything:
 - Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath.



1 Kings 17:1-16 (NIV) 1 of 3

Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”

Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: “Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.”

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1 Kings 17:1-16 (NIV) 2 of 3

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“As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”



1 Kings 17:1-16 (NIV) 3 of 3

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 - Elisha and the Widow's Oil



2 Kings 4:1-7 (NIV) 1 of 2

The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, “Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves.”

Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?”

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2 Kings 4:1-7 (NIV) 2 of 2

She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring.

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But he replied, “There is not a jar left.” Then the oil stopped flowing.

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Lessons



- Jesus criticizes people who exploit the vulnerable (e.g. widows).
- Jesus commends a vulnerable person (e.g. a widow) who gives everything.
- Let your politics & your giving align with what the Bible teaches.



Prophetic Voices, Policy & Politics





Lessons

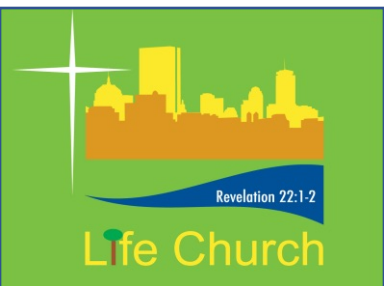


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Q&A / Discussion





Announcements



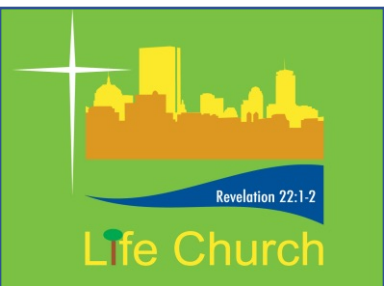
Visitor Page

- Sunday Service (Communion) November 2, 2025
- Sunday Connection November 2, 2025 12n - 2pm
- Men's Bible Study Wed (11/5) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service November 9, 2025
- Men's Bible Study Wed (11/12) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service November 16, 2025
- Men's Bible Study Wed (11/19) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Sunday Service November 23, 2025
- No Men's Bible Study Wed (11/26) - Thanksgiving Week
- Thanksgiving (11/27/2025)
- Sunday Service November 30, 2025



Q&A / Discussion





Benediction, Life Groups



Announcements

Benediction

Life Groups

Leave Service From Life Groups