

Multi-tasking

What does "multi-tasking" mean?

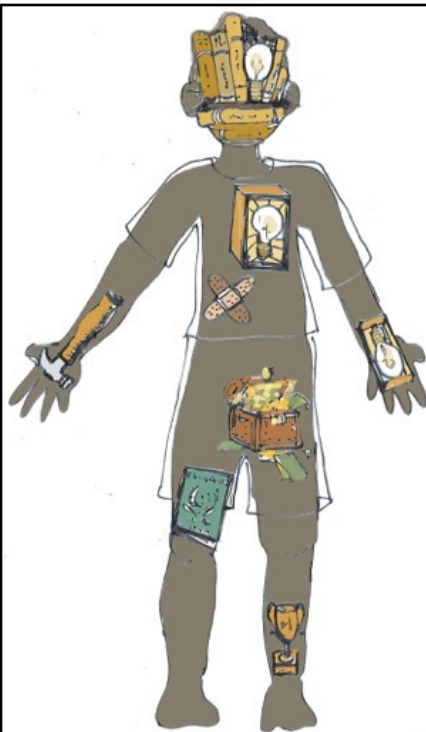
- When do we apparently do it well?
- When do we not do it well?
 - Actually means: paying partial attention well enough that (I think) you can't tell I'm not paying full attention
- Why does it matter?

How might we do that with God?

* Partial trust, partial engagement, partial obedience

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account." *Hebrews 4:12-13*

1



The Kingdom has Come!

Luke 11:14-36

bib.ly/Lu11.NIV
tiny.cc/cmchandouts

2

Luke

Luke's big purpose

- That we would **live by the certainty** that Jesus is the Son of God who lived a perfect life, died for us, and rose to life again to **rule over all creation through His work in the church**

The “Travel Narrative” in Luke (9:51-19:27)

- An **advanced class in being a disciple (follower) of Jesus**
- **They had learned:** Jesus is God's Messiah, the One who is God and will bring God's Kingdom to humanity
- **They hadn't yet learned:** how to live it out

3

“Jews demand signs ... but we preach Christ crucified”

1 Corinthians 1:22-23

Like Moses who did great miracles

- before Pharaoh to release the people from slavery
- at the Red Sea
- when the Law was given

Yet Pharaoh's magicians did “miracles” too

So the people said to Jesus: prove your power is from God!

4

Luke 11:14-16

Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute. When the demon left, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowd was amazed.

But some of them said, “By Beelzebul, the prince of demons, he is driving out demons.”

Others tested him by asking for a sign from heaven.

 provocation, attack

 from God

mute = cannot speak (probably can't hear either)

Beelzebul = a name for Satan (2 Kings 1:2)

5

Flow of thought in Luke 11:14–36

- An amazing “sign” brought open praise and hidden resistance 14–16

6

Luke 11:17-22

Jesus **knew their thoughts** and said to them: “Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and a house divided against itself will

illogical Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom

stand? I say this because **you claim** that I drive out demons by

inconsistent Now if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your followers drive them out? So then, they will be your judges.

But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then

the kingdom of God has come upon you. → **God’s power is present!**

“When **a strong man**, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions **Satan** fe. But when **someone stronger** attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the **Jesus** r in which the man trusted and divides up his plunder.

plunder = people rescued from oppression and evil

7

Flow of thought in Luke 11:14–36

- An amazing “sign” brought open praise and hidden resistance 14–16
- Jesus: His power over spirits is not from Satan (the leader of evil spirits). Rather, **“the kingdom of God has come upon you” 17–22**

8

Luke 11:23-26

“Whoever is not with me is against me,
and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

**passivity favors Satan
and opposes Jesus**

For example...

“When an impure spirit comes out of a person through arid places seeking rest and says, ‘I will return to the house I left.’ When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first.”

**The great risk of passivity and
partial engagement with Jesus
Focuses on supernatural reality**

**Moral goodness without allegiance to Jesus
leaves one deeply vulnerable to evil**

arid places = lifeless, so th

9

Flow of thought in Luke 11:14–36

- An amazing “sign” brought open praise and hidden resistance 14–16
- Jesus: His power over spirits is not from Satan (the leader of evil spirits). Rather, “the kingdom of God has come upon you” 17–22
- Jesus: choosing God’s Kingdom must be intentional & determined 23–36
—partial engagement empowers opposition to God 23–26

10

Luke 11:27-28

As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, “Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.”

the Jewish people

He replied, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.”

- of any people, language, tribe, or nation
- focuses on human response (in the natural realm)

11

Flow of thought in Luke 11:14–36

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- Jesus: choosing God’s Kingdom must be intentional & determined **23–36**
 - partial engagement empowers opposition to God 23–26
 - living in God’s Kingdom requires hearing and obeying **27–28**

12

Luke 11:29-32

As the crowds increased, Jesus said, “This is a wicked generation. It asks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah. For as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so also will the Son of Man be to this generation. The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon, and now something greater than Solomon is here. The Ninevites will stand up at the judgment and condemn them, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now something greater than Jonah is here, and yet they do not repent.”

Jonah: resistant Israelite (but can't stay neutral) rebuked foreigners; they heard the Word of God and obeyed; they were rescued
Queen of the South: sought and listened to words of Israel's King Solomon
No "signs" were required for their faith!
Jesus is far greater, yet people resist Him

13

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- Jesus: choosing God’s Kingdom must be intentional & determined 23–36
 - partial engagement empowers opposition to God 23–26
 - living in God’s Kingdom requires hearing and obeying 27–28
 - “insiders” who do not choose Jesus will be judged by “outsiders” who do 29–32

14

Luke 11:33-36

“No one lights a lamp and puts it in a place where it will be hidden, or under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, so that those who come in may see the light. Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are healthy, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are unhealthy, your body also is full of darkness.”

within you is not darkness
full of light, and no part
light as when a lamp shi

**No one is foolish enough to light a lamp
then try to block its light**

It is just as foolish to have the light of Jesus

then block its light from any part of our being

Even more, it is disastrous: “full of darkness”

“Light of Jesus”: Spirit plus obedience to Word

15

Flow of thought in Luke 11:14–36

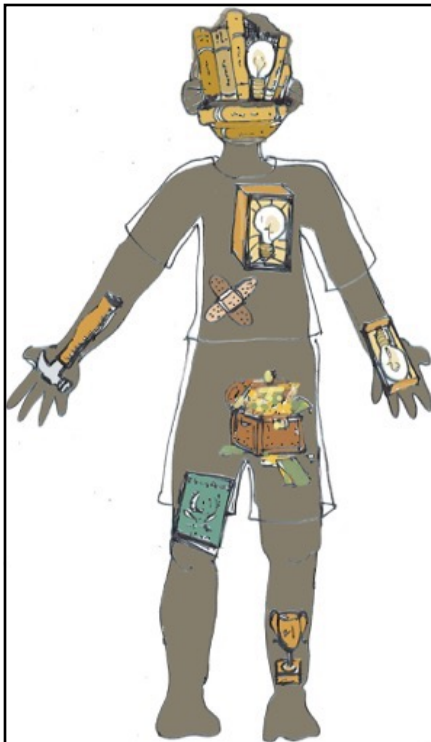
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 - living in God’s Kingdom requires hearing and obeying 27–28
 - “insiders” who do not choose Jesus will be judged by “outsiders” who do 29–32
 - the call: fill your life with the Word of God & the Spirit of God otherwise, you are filled with darkness **33–36**

16

The Big Idea

**The Kingdom of God has come upon us
and we are fully living in His Kingdom
when... we are **filled** with the Holy Spirit
we are **filled** with the Word of God
we **fully** live according to the Word of God**

17



What is filling this life?

- The light of Jesus is present, yet it is blocked and crowded and choked by many things
- The “eye” of life is what fills us
- “But when your eyes are **unhealthy**, your body also is full of darkness. See to it, then, that the light within you is not darkness.” *Luke 11:34–35*
 - Wandering eyes look at the wrong things
 - Diseased eyes block vision, or block clarity, or distort what is there
 - Partial engagement welcomes darkness

18



What is filling this life?

- “Therefore, if your whole body is full of light, and no part of it dark, it will be just as **full of light** as when a lamp shines its light on you.” *Luke 11:36*
- “The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness **a light has dawned.**” *Isaiah 9:2*

What does it mean for our **whole body** to be **full of the Light of Christ**?

19

The Big Idea

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To be filled with the light of Christ is to experience the fullness of His love and blessing, and to escape the efforts of the devil to steal and kill and destroy

20

Application

Fill our lives with the Light of Christ

1. Be filled with the Holy Spirit

- "For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness [the stronghold of Satan] and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves" *Colossians 1:13–14*
- "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." *Ephesians 6:12*
- The spiritual realm is real and powerful, both good and evil
 - Satan: disguises himself as an angel of light; deceives; is crafty; seeks to steal, kill, and destroy; tries to win by partial victories
 - Jesus' power is far greater! "someone stronger overpowers him"

21

Application

Fill our lives with the Light of Christ

1. Be filled with the Holy Spirit

- How?
 - "But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior" *Titus 3:3–7*
 - "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."" *Acts 2:38*
 - Our life as Christians is only by the direct work of the Holy Spirit
 - Ask Jesus for the Holy Spirit, and He will freely give
 - Welcome the power of the Spirit in every part of life

22

Application

Fill our lives with the Light of Christ

1. Be **filled** with the Holy Spirit
2. Be **filled** with the Knowledge of God
 - “Blessed are those who **hear the word of God** and obey it”
 - How?
 - Carefully listen to the Word of God
 - Choose good teachers of the Word of God
 - Work together with others to understand the Word of God
 - Be wary of the danger of confirmation bias: finding what we are looking for or what we want
 - Pay attention to the parts we don't like!
 - Pursue the Word of God for every part of our lives

23

Application

Fill our lives with the Light of Christ

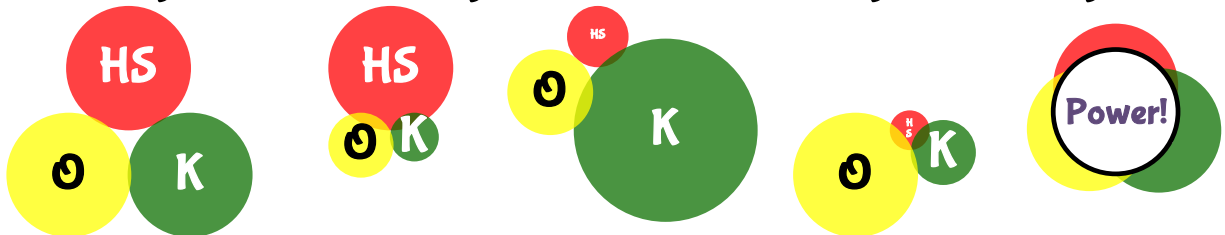
1. Be **filled** with the Holy Spirit
2. Be **filled** with the Knowledge of God
3. Be **filled** with obedience to the Word of God
 - “Blessed are those who hear the word of God and **obey it**”
 - Partial obedience welcomes darkness
 - “Jesus demands obedience not praise”
 - How?
 - **Do what Jesus says:** “Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me.” *John 14:21*
 - **Together:** “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds” *Hebrews 10:24*
 - In every part of our lives

24

Application

Fill our lives with the Light of Christ

1. Be **filled** with the Holy Spirit
2. Be **filled** with the Knowledge of God
3. Be **filled** with obedience to the Word of God
4. Deeply integrated
 - Holy Spirit, knowledge, and obedience fully present together



25

The Big Idea

The Kingdom of God has come upon us
and we are fully living in His Kingdom
when... we are filled with the Holy Spirit
we are filled with the Word of God
we fully live according to the Word of God

Which aspect of God (power, truth, action) is least at home in you?
Which aspect of you (head, heart, hands) is least filled with God?
Which aspect of your life is least filled with God?
Our goal: "filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

26

“But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior” *Titus 3:3–7*

- Let us live fully in the rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit whom God pours out on us generously in Jesus Christ