1. **Luke 4:23-24**

* Skepticism has set in and the question “Isn’t this the son of Joseph?” has been asked, and Jesus’s response to the people at this time is a proverb, “Surely you will quote me this proverb, ‘Physician, cure yourself.’ What does this proverb say to you?
* What might be a saying of today, that implies the same attitude of the proverb?
* What do the people want in order to accept Jesus Christ?

1. **Luke 4:25-30**

* What two prophets is Jesus speaking about here in this passage?
* **1 Kings 16:29-34**
* Who is Ahab?
* What did Ahab do that displeased God?
* **1 Kings 17:1-24**
* Who did Elijah prophecy about the rain to?
* Why might be the purpose of the drought?
* Where did Elijah go to “hide”?
* What three miracles do we see God work through Elijah here in this passage?
* Was the “widow” Elijah stayed with an Israelite or Gentile?
* **2 Kings 5:1-16**
* Who was healed by God through Elisha in this story?
* Was “Naaman” an Israelite or Gentile?
* Notice in **Luke**, Jesus emphasizes “there were many widows in Israel” during those “days”, but God chose to send his prophet to a Gentile woman, and next “there were many lepers in Israel” but God chose to send his prophet to cure a Gentile man elsewhere, how did the people in the synagogue respond to these facts?
* Why do you think they became so angry upon hearing of these two miracles which blessed these Gentiles and what message might Jesus have been sending to them?
* What does this message say to you as a Christian today?
* **St. Cyril of Alexandria** (378 AD – 444 AD) *Commentary on Luke Sermon 12*

”This was a common saying among the Jews, and had its origin in a witticism, for when physicians were themselves ill, men would say, ‘Physician, heal thyself’. Christ therefore, setting before them as it were this proverb, said unto them, You wish for many signs to be wrought by Me among you especially, in whose country I was brought up; but I know the common feeling to which all men are liable, for always, somehow or other, even the choicest of things are despised when there is no scarcity of them, and people have them in abundance. And so too is the case with men, for his acquaintance will often times refuse one with whom they are familiar, and who is constantly among them, even the honor which is due. He rebuked them therefore for asking so foolishly, ‘Is not this the son of Joseph?’ and still keeping to the object of His teaching, saying “Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place.’”

* **St. Ambrose** (339 AD – 397 AD) *Exposition of The Gospel of Luke 4.47*

“He who loved all could not but love his fellow citizens. But those who envy deprive themselves of love, for ‘love does not envy, it is not puffed up.’ Yet his country does not lack divine blessings. Isn’t it a greater miracle that Christ was born there? So, you see what measure of evil envy brings. His country is found unworthy because of envy, the country in which he toiled as a citizen, which was worthy that the Son of God be born there.”

* Share a thought or two that came to mind during today’s study?