1. **Luke 6:17-26**
   * + Where did the people who “came to hear” come from?
     + Considering those areas, would the crowd be made up of just those from the Jewish community? Why or why not, please explain your thoughts?
     + Why did these people come to him, according to the scriptures?
     + **Exodus 19:3-6,** **19:23-25, Exodus 20:1-17**
     + Where did Moses go up to in **Exodus**?
     + **Luke 6:12**
     + Where did Jesus go up to in **Luke**?
     + Where did Moses come down from according to the passage in **Exodus**?
     + Where did Jesus come “down” from in **Luke 6:17**?
     + What did Moses announce to the people after coming “down” in **Exodus 20:1-17**?
     + What did Jesus announce to the people after coming “down” in **Luke 6:20-26**?
     + Reflect on the parallel events seen between Moses and Jesus, and share what it brings to mind when considering the message, it conveys to you.
     + Consider **Luke 6:19**, what is unique about “Jesus” in this passage and share what is says to you about who Jesus is?
2. **St. Ambrose** (339 AD – 397 AD) *Exposition of The Gospel of Luke 5.46*

“Note all things carefully, how He **ascends** with the **Apostles** and **descends** to the **crowds**, for how would a crowd see Christ, save at a low level? It does not follow Him to the heights, it does not climb to the sublime. So when He descends, **He finds the weak**, for the **weak cannot be high up**. Thus, also Matthew teaches that the weak were healed down below, for first each was healed, so that little by little, with increasing virtue, he could ascend to the mountain. And, therefore, on the plain He heals each. He calls back from wantonness, He averts the harm of blindness, He descends to our wounds, so that through the usage and abundance **He makes us partakers in the Heavenly Nature.** And, indeed, He healed them, but left them on the plain.”

* + - Share a thought or two that comes to mind when considering St. Ambrose commentary on the Gospel reading we just read in **Luke**?

1. **St. Cyril of Alexandria** (378 AD – 444 AD) *Commentary on Luke Sermon 26*

“And when He had appointed the holy Apostles, He performed very many wonderful miracles, rebuking demons, delivering from incurable diseases whosoever drew near unto Him, and displaying His own most godlike power, that both the Jews, who had run together unto Him, and those from the country of the Greeks, might know, that Christ, by Whom they were honored with dignity of the Apostolate, was not some ordinary man of those in our degree, but retained, nevertheless, His own glory. For ‘power went from Him, and healed all.’ For Christ did not borrow strength from some other person, but **being Himself God by nature**, even though He had become flesh, He healed them all, but the putting forth of power over the sick.”

1. **Luke 6:20-22**

* Who are the “poor” according to what you understand?
* Who are the “hungry”?
* Who are the “weeping”?
* Who are those “hated, excluded, and insulted” because of the “Son of Man”?

1. **Catechism 1725-1728**

* **St. Cyril of Alexandria** (378 AD – 444 AD) *Commentary on Luke Sermons 27*

“Wishing us to understand by the **poor** in spirit the man who entertains **lowly thoughts of himself**, and whoso mind, so to speak, is closely reefed, and his **heart gentle**, and **ready to yield**, and entirely **free from the guild of pride**.”

“We say, therefore, that it is a great and noble thing to **hunger and thirst after righteousness**, that is, habitually to take part in earnest **endeavors after** **piety**, for such is the meaning of righteousness, **as if it were our meat and drink**.”

“But by those who **weep**, we say that those are not meant who simply shed tears from their eyes, for this is a thing common to all without exception, whether believers or unbelievers, if ought to happen of a painful nature, but rather **who shun a life of merriment and vanity and carnal pleasures.**”

“Already did the Lord mention **persecution**, even before the Apostles had been sent on their mission. The Gospel anticipated what would happen. For it was altogether to be expected that those who proclaimed the Gospel message , and made the Jews abandon their legal mode of worship to learn the **Gospel way of virtuous living**, while too they won over idolaters to the acknowledgement of truth, could come in contact with many **impious and unholy men**. For such are they who, in their **enmity against piety excite wars and persecutions against those who preach Jesus.**”

* Share something that was important to you in this study today with the group.