

Teacher Resource Bank

GCSE Religious Studies Specification A

Unit 6 *St Luke's Gospel*

Exemplar Scripts and Commentaries



Script 1

PART A

A1 Background to Luke's Gospel

- (a) The quotation gives the beginning of the passage from Isaiah that Jesus read in the synagogues at Nazareth. Outline the rest of the passage that Jesus read. (3 marks)

"to proclaim freedom to the prisoners, to recover sight for the blind, to release the oppressed to proclaim the year of the lord's favour."

Commentary

Answer contains all of the required text.

(3 marks)

- (b) Explain what is meant by the term 'gospel'. (2 marks)

Definition - "good news"

Explanation - *there are four gospels in the new testament ; Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. All of which spread Jesus' message about God's will being down here, on earth.*

Commentary

Correct definition well explained.

(2 marks)

- (c) 'Luke's Gospel was written 2000 years ago; it is out of date.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (6 marks)

I think that it isn't out of date because the message that the Gospel gives can still apply to today's society. Such as helping the poor and still honouring God's will through prayer etc. However, others may disagree and say that religion is so widely spread nowadays, that it is hard not to be tempted to do things against God's will and commit sins. For example not going to church or committing adultery.

Commentary

The first viewpoint is well explained, but in the second the candidate loses focus and appears to be answering a different question.

(4 marks)

A2 Discipleship

- (a) 'It is wrong for Christians to be rich'

What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

I think that it is not wrong for a good christian to be rich. This is because Jesus taught in the parable 'Lazerus and the rich man', that if you have money and power you can still put it to good use.

Commentary

A developed reason. Another point or further development might have resulted in full marks.

(2 marks)

- (b) Give some possible reasons why Judas betrayed Jesus. (3 marks)

It is believed that Judas betrayed Jesus because Satan entered him and told him to. I believe that without Judas betraying Jesus, there would have never been a crucifixion, arrest or ressurection. So, it could have been God's will to betray him.

Commentary

Two points with one developed.

(3 marks)

- (c) 'Peter is the ideal disciple for Christians to follow.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Luke's Gospel in your answer. (6 marks)

I think that Peter is the ideal disciple because he was there , with Jesus when all the main events happened. For example, Peter was the first one to see Jesus' empty tomb after Jesus had been resurrected. He also was the first disciple to say that he believed Jesus to be the messiah showing great faith in him. However, others may disagree because Peter deniaied knowing Jesus after has arrest, this made him weak, and possibly unfaithful. Although, I believe this shows he is only human, as he showed weakness just like anyone else would in that situation.

Commentary

Well argued, with two different points of view and an insightful conclusion.

(6 marks)

A3 Salvation

- (a) What did the angel Gabriel say to Mary about Jesus? (3 marks)

Gabriel said that Mary was to have a child who would be the son of God and that she would name him Jesus. He also said that Jesus would bring the kingdom of God to earth.

Commentary

Three appropriate comments.

(3 marks)

- (b) How did Mary respond to the angel Gabriel's message? (2 marks)

Mary questioned it at first, and asked how this could be, she was a virgin. But then she accepted it and said she was 'the lord's servant!'

Commentary

A full answer.

(2 marks)

- (c) What did the angel say to the shepherds? (3 marks)

The angel told the shepherds that a great king had been born in Bethlehem and that they must go to him. The angel said he would be a saviour to them and bring god's kingdom to earth.

Commentary

Just enough for level 3.

(3 marks)

- (d) 'The birth stories about Jesus are not true.'

What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

I think that a baby boy called Jesus was born in Bethlehem and that people did come to see him. However, I do not believe that he was born a virgin birth or that angels came to Mary or the Shepherds.

Commentary

This only just makes level 1 for the implied contrast between accepting the birth of a baby by contrast with supernatural elements to the birth.

(1 marks)

A4 The Authority of Jesus

- (a) Outline the rest of the story of the healing of the paralysed man. (4 marks)

Jesus said to the men 'your sins have been forgiven friends' and then he told the man to pick up his bed and go home. However, the religious leaders were outraged by what he said.

Commentary

Three clear points although insufficiently developed for full marks.

(3 marks)

- (b) Why did the religious leaders object to what Jesus said to the paralysed man? (2 marks)

They objected to what Jesus had said because they believed he was abusing the temple system by forgiving sins and committing blasphemy by doing it in the lord's name.

Commentary

A developed answer.

(2 marks)

- (c) Jesus often referred to himself as the Son of Man. Give **two** other titles used for Jesus in Luke's Gospel. (2 marks)

1. Saviour
2. Son of David

Commentary

Two correct titles.

(2 marks)

- (d) 'Jesus should have taken more care not to offend people.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (6 marks)

I think that Jesus was only standing up for the outcasts because no one else would and they still have a chance to show God they can do good. But, by doing this, Jesus did offend many people, some may believe that he should have shown more compassion to others rather than just outcasts. However, others agree that others should have shown more compassion to outcasts, and by offending them, he was teaching them a lesson.

Commentary

The second viewpoint is insufficiently developed or coherent to be awarded the higher levels.

(4 marks)

PART B

B6 Universalism

- (a) Give an account of the healing of the centurion's servant. (6 marks)

One day a Centurion's servant fell ill. This servant was one of the most faithful servants to the Centurion, and the Centurion desperately wanted him better. So he sent some of his people to Jesus, who was in town, and asked him to make the servant better. Jesus told them that their sins were forgiven and that they should pray for the servant to get better. So the people prayed and when they got home the centurion was better. However Jesus questioned why the Centurion did not come to him. The centurion said that he felt unworthy to be in his presence, Jesus saw that he was humble and believed greatly in the servants so he forgave his sins.

Commentary

Several details, but insufficient detail or accuracy for level 4.

(3 marks)

- (b) 'Jesus should not have showed friendship to Zacchaeus'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (6 marks)

I believe that this statement is not true, Jesus should have shown friendship to him because Zacchaeus had even climbed a tree to see Jesus walk past. Zacchaeus welcomed Jesus into his home and promised to give away half of his possessions and pay everyone back four times what he owed them, as he was a tax collector. Although others may disagree and say that because Zacchaeus was chief tax collector, and had done many bad things, he was a sinful man and Jesus shouldn't have shown friendship to him. But by saying this people do not believe that Jesus can feel good in everyone and that everyone has a second chance.

Commentary

This has just enough of the second viewpoint to warrant level 5. The first viewpoint is well argued.

(5 marks)

- (c) Explain how Christians might be influenced by Jesus' attitude to those who were despised. Refer to Luke's Gospel in your answer. (6 marks)

Christians attitude's have been greatly influenced by Jesus for showing kindness to the despised in many ways. For example, when Jesus teaches what disciples must do to influence others to follow Jesus, Jesus teaches that they should stay with whoever welcomes them. This gives a good example to christians that they should welcome everyone, may be not into their homes but into their hearts. Jesus also teaches that everyone can have a second chance, as Zacchaeus did. And that people can change. Jesus was ruthless and stood by what he believed in even when on the cross. Showing that even when Christians are peresecuted for what they believe in, the should still continue and show their faith in God.

Commentary

Two well developed points here. The final point is not made explicitly relevant to the wording of the question.

(5 marks)

- (d) 'Discrimination is the greatest evil in the world today'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Christianity in your answer. (6 marks)

I do agree that discrimination is the greatest evil of today because we should all be equal as we are in God's eyes. And if we discriminate, God's kingdom will never come. However others may say that by breaking 10 commandments , committing blasphemy and sin are the greatest of all evils bacause you break God's will and his law. Some christians, may never come to a conclusion on exactly what is the greatest evil in today's society as there are so many. Some say that there is so much evil in todays world, that it cannot be refered to as evil anymore. That to most, it is an everyday part of life. To smoke, drink, lie, use God;s name in vain or even to discriminate, as they have been brought up that way, to be racist, sexist, anachist etc. Some have been born into military families and have only known that killing is ok if other people are killing. In conclusion , I believe that to christians , the greatest evil is discrimination, especially when done in the lord's name.

Commentary

A well argued response – effective argument and examples.

(6 marks)

Script 2

PART A

A1 Background to Luke's Gospel

- (a) The quotation gives the beginning of the passage from Isaiah that Jesus read in the synagogues at Nazareth. Outline the rest of the passage that Jesus read. (3 marks)

He states that the Messiah is coming to share God's word and it is he who is speaking to them now.

Commentary

The only relevant information is Jesus' self-identification.

(1 marks)

- (b) Explain what is meant by the term 'gospel'. (2 marks)

Definition - *Good News*

Explanation - *A gospel is an acknowledgement of good news that is to be shared with others. It can be a source of information.*

Commentary

The definition is correct but the explanation has no specific focus.

(1 marks)

- (c) 'Luke's Gospel was written 2000 years ago; it is out of date.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (6 marks)

I do not agree with the statement as many of the things told by Luke are about kindness and respect for others which is still relevant in today's society and encouraged more. However some people may say Luke's Gospel is out of date as the ideas of giving up your wealth to the poor is not realistic today as without money, one would not survive. Christians may think that it is not relevant when it was written only that God's message is being told is the important part. And the fact it is still read today promotes the idea that people still want to learn about it.

Commentary

Reasoned consideration of two different viewpoints. Had the other viewpoint been more fully argued, the answer might have reached level 6.

(5 marks)

A2 Discipleship

- (a) 'It is wrong for Christians to be rich.'

What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

In my opinion, it is not wrong for Christians to be rich if they have earned it and are considerate of those who have less than them, possibly giving some of their wealth to charity each month, but it is wrong for them to say they follow Jesus but do not give anything away as this ignores one of Jesus' most important thoughts of sharing and loving your neighbour.

Commentary

A full and well argued response.

(3 marks)

- (b) Give some possible reasons why Judas betrayed Jesus. (3 marks)

Judas could have betrayed Jesus for a reward offered by the Romans for turning him in, and the money made him forget what was important to him. Some people think he may have been possessed by the devil to test his faith or Jesus' strength. Or possibly because he felt threatened by the Romans and thought it best to be on their side rather than against him.

Commentary

A detailed response – more than needed for maximum marks.

(3 marks)

- (c) 'Peter is the ideal disciple for Christians to follow'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. Refer to Luke's Gospel in your answer. (6 marks)

I agree that for Christians Peter would be a good disciple to follow as he was just an ordinary fisherman who people can relate to and thought himself unworthy to be in Jesus' presence. This shows he was humble which Christians might admire. On the other hand Christians may resent Peter for denying Jesus when he needed him most, by pretending he didn't know who Jesus was at the Crucifixion. This could make people dislike Peter and question his loyalty and if he really was a true disciple or not. However I personally think Peter would be the best disciple to follow as he was closest to Jesus through his life time, and the one that knew he was the messiah.

Commentary

A full and coherent answer.

(6 marks)

A3 Salvation

- (a) What did the angel Gabriel say to Mary about Jesus? (3 marks)

The angel Gabriel told Mary she would bore a son, who she should name Jesus. He told her that this baby would be the son of God and bring peace to all people.

Commentary

Although the name 'Jesus' is given in the question, the candidate correctly describes the opening words of the angel, and the statement that the child would be the Son of God is correct.

(2 marks)

- (b) How did Mary respond to the angel Gabriel's message? (2 marks)

Mary was shocked at first, but agreed with the angel as she was a good god fearing woman and wanted to please God.

Commentary

There are two valid interpretations/descriptions of Mary's response.

(2 marks)

- (c) What did the angel say to the shepherds? (3 marks)

The angel told the shepherds to not be afraid and that he had great news to share. The angel told the shepherds that a baby had been born in Bethlehem who would be a great leader and that they should follow the star and go to see him.

Commentary

The first part of the answer is correct, but 'great leader' is not really the sense of what the angels say, and the reference to the star is not correct.

(2 marks)

- (d) 'The birth stories about Jesus are not true.'

What do you think? Explain your opinion. (3 marks)

I think the birth stories about Jesus could be true as it was never prophesied that he would be born of a virgin, so there would have been no need to make it up if it wasn't true. However it could be seen that this part of the story was made up to gain more attention to his birth than others in the bible to show Jesus was special. Personally I would like to believe that it is true.

Commentary

Two clear ideas, well expressed.

(3 marks)

A4 The Authority of Jesus

- (a) Outline the rest of the story of the healing of the paralysed man. (4 marks)

Jesus having seen the paralysed man said to him 'Your sins have been forgiven' and the man was no longer paralysed. This did not please the pharisees though and they questioned who he was to heal people. So Jesus then said to the man. 'Get up and walk' and the man could walk. Jesus said it was just as easy to forgive his sins as to say that.

Commentary

The account contains some omissions and the reason given for the Pharisees' hostility is inaccurate.

(3 marks)

- (b) Why did the religious leaders object to what Jesus said to the paralysed man? (2 marks)

The religious leaders thought it was improper for Jesus to forgive this mans sins, as only the Lord could, and this was blasphemy. They could have been scared that a man like them had such powers and could speak on behalf of God.

Commentary

Full and accurate.

(2 marks)

- (c) Jesus often referred to himself as the Son of Man. Give **two** other titles used for Jesus in Luke's Gospel. (2 marks)

1. *Son of God*
2. *The Messiah*

Commentary

Two correct titles given.

(2 marks)

- (d) 'Jesus should have taken more care not to offend people.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for you answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (6 marks)

I do not agree as when Jesus offeneded people it was because he disapproved of their actions instead of being offened, they should have listened to what he said and changed their ways. Some people may think the way Jesus preached was harsh and offened people, but if he had been softer on them, they might have ignored his message and no good would have been done. Also if Jesus had restrained himself from speaking the truth, maybe his teaching wouldn't be so iconic today. He must have been right in how he spoke to people otherwise 2000 years later people wouldn't still be following his words.

Commentary

One side of the argument is well presented, but the other is insufficiently detailed to count as 'reasoned consideration', which is one of the criteria for level 5.

(4 marks)

PART B

B5 The Suffering, Death and Resurrection of Jesus

- (a) Give an account of the arrest of Jesus. (6 marks)

The night of Jesus' arrest the disciples and himself shared 'The last Supper' in which he told them one of them would betray him and another would disown him, which they all denied they would do. He broke a loaf of bread gave it to the disciples and said 'this is my body which will be given up for you' He did the same with the wine and said ' this is my blood which will be given up for you.' After supper they went to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus' prayed to his father and the disciples kept watch. When the Romans appeared Judas came up to Jesus and kissed him to show who to arrest and he was taken to Pontius Pilate, he was reluctant to arrest Jesus as there were no crimes against him, so he asked the crowd whether they wanted to sentence Jesus to death or a thief, and they chose Jesus.

Commentary

Apart from setting the scene and referring to Judas' kiss, there is nothing relevant to the question.

(2 marks)

- (b) 'Jesus' time of prayer in Gethsemane shows him at his weakest.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (6 marks)

I do think when Jesus is praying in the garden of Gethsemane it shows him at a weak point as he knows that soon he will be put to death and his human thoughts are worried and scared, this showing Jesus' human emotions and that he is not always so strong. Some people may think that Jesus weakest point was on the cross when he say 'Father, why have you forsaken me.' As he is doubting everything he is and his belief in his own father. Personally I think that is the weakest moment as he knows he will not be saved but is still wishing he could be, and forgetting what he was put on earth to do.

Commentary

Just enough of the second viewpoint for level 6 to be awarded.

(6 marks)

- (c) Explain the importance for the lives of Christians today of the suffering and death of Jesus as recorded by Luke. (6 marks)

The suffering and death of Jesus is important to christians today as it reminds them about what he went through for them to live in the Kingdom of God and for their sins to be forgiven. Without Jesus' death his message is not as strong to people, because there would be no action to enforce how much God loves his children, and the fact he was willing to kill his own son to forgive their sins.

Commentary

To gain a higher level, the two points made need more detailed development.

(4 marks)

- (d) 'The words "The Lords has risen ideed" are the most important words in St Luke's Gospel.

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer, showing that you have thought about more than one point of view. (6 marks)

I agree that 'The Lord has risen indeed' are important words in Luke's Gospel as it shows the power that God has to bring someone back from the dead. Although there are many other important phrases and words in his Gospel that some people may see as more important than these words. For example his teaching on loving ones neighbour and the kingdom of God. Or the proclaiming of Jesus's birth. I think it depends on how you live your life and think about God as to which are most important for you. If you were a very charitable person, loveing your neighbour may be the most important words of the gospel for you.

Commentary

This just makes level 4. Neither viewpoint can be assessed as 'reasoned consideration'.

(4 marks)