



A Long "Luke" at the Book of Acts

"The Not-so Fun House"

The Narrow Door
Luke 13:22-30

A Study on the
Biblical Works of Luke
Luke 1:1 - Acts 28:31
2/1/26



Luke 13:24

"Work hard to enter the narrow door to God's Kingdom, for many will try to enter but will fail." NLT

I was going to start this letter out by saying: "Growing up, I used to love visiting theme parks." But then I thought about it and realized that was misleading because while that is an accurate statement, the real truth is, even as an adult I still love theme parks! As a kid, the fun house/dark ride types were always my favorite. They always had such cool effects to make you feel like you were really in another world. One of my favorites back in the day - again, still a favorite now - was Peter Pan's flight in the Magic Kingdom. You'd get into this flying pirate ship and take a breathtaking trip over the skies of London, and heading toward the second star on the right, you'd make your way to Neverland to battle pirates and save mermaids with Peter Pan. Thing was, the effects of "going into Neverland" were insane, you flew toward a swirling star which kinda looked like you were going to smack into until at the last second a door opens and "whoosh!" You're there. What does that have to do with the book of Luke? Jesus talks about a similar kind of door that seems nearly impossible to access, and that's because if we rely on human efforts, it is. But Jesus has done what is necessary for us to enter. Come see us at New Heights this weekend and we'll talk more about it.

See you then! - Zach

Sermon in a Sentence

"The _____ to Christ may be _____, but it's not _____ to _____."

Today's Scripture

Luke 13:22-24

John 14:1-6

Matthew 11:28-30

Romans 2:13-16

Isaiah 12:2

Something Worth Noting

The door is narrow because it has a _____ and it's name is _____."

Three Weekly Challenges

1. _____ the Door
2. _____ the Door
3. _____ the Door



Weekly Prayer Requests

Guy Nichols Lawrence Johnson
 Savannah Higgs Beth Rowland
 Sam Clark Pam Gobin and Family
 Lynne Wilhelm Lori Higgs
 Jason Woods

* Names will stay on the current list for three weeks. Please inform the office if you wish for a name to remain on this list or be transferred to the long-term list. Names marked with ** will be moved to the long-term prayer list the following week. The long-term prayer list is located in the foyer.



Vitals for January 25

Weekly Need: \$3,200
 Actual Given: \$3838
 Sunday School -
 Morning Service -



**Sign-ups
 are in the
 foyer!**

3 easy ways to give:

- 'Tithes & Offerings' box in the lobby
- newheightsconnersville.com/giving
- Mail to the church office

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 Robert Chalker
 Collin Clark
 Adam Martin



Sign Up in the
 foyer to have
 dinner with
 the popular,
 pesto penne
 pasta with
 extra
 Parmesan-
 loving Pastor
 Zach Korff!



**YOUTH GROUP
 TONIGHT!**

JOIN US FOR FUN, FOOD
 & FELLOWSHIP!

**3RD -12TH
 GRADES**



Kylie Clark 1/29
 Tristan Korff 1/30

Jordan Clark 2/1
 Earl Whipple 2/7



What's Happening

March

February
 2/8 - Souper Sunday Challenge - 5 pm
 2/10 - Jesus Girls Ladies' Ministry- 6 pm
 2/18 NHCC Serving @ The Haven - 5:30- 6 pm
 (Sign-up sheet in the foyer.)
 2/21 - Jesus Girls' Paint & Praise 11 am -2 pm



3/7- Men's Mentorship 8:00 am
 3/10 - Jesus Girls Ladies' Ministry- 6 pm
 3/18 NHCC Serving @ The Haven - 5:30- 6 pm
 (Sign-up sheet in the foyer.)

Contact us:
 765-825-9132

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Mahoning Valley Winter Retreats

Elevate - 6th - 8th grades: Feb 6-8

The Well- 9th -12th : Feb 13-15th

Prayer Starter

Examples

- “God, I am here to talk to you about...”
- “Help me to understand how to...”
- “I want to know you better by...”
- “Thank you for inviting me into conversation with You...”

NHCC Prayer Guide

February 1, 2026

Explore the scriptures from this week's sermon and turn them into heartfelt personal prayers.

Let's Pray:

Praise
Repent
Ask
Yield

KEY SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

“WORK HARD TO ENTER THE NARROW DOOR TO GOD'S KINGDOM, FOR MANY WILL TRY TO ENTER BUT WILL FAIL.”
LUKE 13:24 NLT

Today's Scripture

Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?" He said to them, "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to." Luke 13:22-24 NIV

Monday

Today's Prayer Focus

Start this week by engaging in a heartfelt conversation with God, just as you would with a close friend. Share with Him what trusting Jesus means to you in every aspect of your life. Are you attempting to manage things through your own strength or methods? If that's the case, consider what you can release to Him this week.

Today's Scripture

John 3:16 - God so loved the world that he sent his son so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life.

Tuesday

You don't have to clean up your life before coming to God. He invites you to come as you are. He loves you just as you are. Pray with confidence today, knowing that God welcomes you into His presence regardless of your mistakes or current struggles.

Today's Prayer Focus

Today's Scripture

Acts 2:38 - Repent [of your sins] and be baptized and you will receive the forgiveness of your sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Wednesday

Today's Prayer Focus

Begin today's prayer by simply acknowledging that you, like everyone, need God's forgiveness. We are all sinners. Take time to confess any sins or mistakes that have been weighing on your heart. Remember that God's mercy is greater than any failure, and His love for you never fails. Even following baptism, we should continue to walk with a humble and repentant heart towards God.

Thursday Today's Scripture

Matthew 11:28-30

Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

Today's Prayer Focus

Begin today's prayer by simply acknowledging that you, like everyone, need God's forgiveness. We are all sinners. Take time to confess any sins or mistakes that have been weighing on your heart. We should always walk with a humble and repentant heart towards God. Remember that God's mercy is greater than any failure, and His love for you never fails.

Friday *Today's Scripture*

John 14:1-6

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.

And you know the way to where I am going."

"No, we don't know, Lord," Thomas said. "We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." NLT

Today's Prayer Focus

Take some time today to reflect on the promise that Jesus made to those who place their faith in Him: the assurance that He is preparing a place for us. He will return for all who trust in Him and Him alone. Allow this message to resonate in your heart and bring you a sense of peace.

Today's Scripture

For merely listening to the law doesn't make us right with God. It is obeying the law that makes us right in his sight. Even Gentiles, who do not have God's written law, show that they know his law when they instinctively obey it, even without having heard it. They demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right. And this is the message I proclaim—that the day is coming when God, through Christ Jesus, will judge everyone's secret life. Romans 2:13-16

Saturday

Today's Prayer Focus

Let today's focus be on the condition of your heart before the Lord. These verses tell us that our own conscience and thoughts either accuse us or tell us we are doing right. Spend time listening for the Spirit's guidance. Is there hidden sin in your heart that requires confession and repentance? Thank God for the way confession leads to restoration and honor, not shame.

Zach's

Three Weekly Challenges

KEY SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

"WORK HARD TO ENTER THE NARROW DOOR TO GOD'S KINGDOM, FOR MANY WILL TRY TO ENTER BUT WILL FAIL."

LUKE 13:24 NLT

Challenge Number One:

NAME the Door - Each day, out loud, finish this sentence in prayer: "Jesus, I trust you as the way into my life, not my _____."

What goes in the blank? My effort. My accomplishments. My ability. My pride. My being right on any given subject. This reinforces that the door has a name, and that name is not our name. It keeps the door exclusively personal and not political or philosophical. We're not just defending Jesus, we're depending on him

Challenge Number Two:

TRUST the Door - I wonder if there are areas of your life where - even those of you who fall into the category of trusting what we're saying about the exclusivity of Jesus - you're still trying to "prove you belong," or "earn your way."

Maybe you're committed because you think the more active you are, the better the spot that you'll earn. We're glad you're committed, but that's not why we volunteer.

Or maybe you're measuring your "good" performances against your "bad" performances and as long as the scales tip toward "good", you think you're in good shape. Replace your effort with a faith that says: "Lord, I enter by trust, not by effort, and I receive what I cannot earn for myself."

Challenge Number Three:

DECORATE the Door - Make it look attractive. We did this for my wife's classroom back at Halloween-time. She and the other teachers were in a decoration contest, and she picked The Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown, which we were easily able transition to a Charlie Brown Christmas by swapping out the pumpkins with presents. Nice, right?

Anyway...

I want to challenge you to do something this week that makes Jesus look attractive. Not necessarily "correct" or even "superior", just "good".