

Bible study notes ws 9 1 21

- Read Luke 4: 14 -18. Thinking about verse 14, Jesus returned from where? Why is this a significant moment in his life?
- The locals at Nazareth might have had mixed feelings about Jesus coming to their synagogue. What sort of feelings have been on their hearts?
- Read Luke 4: 18 - 19. Jesus seems to be quoting from Isaiah 61: 1 - 3. Jesus (or Luke in writing this up) changes the quotation from Isaiah 61. Can you see any significance in the changes that are made?
- These verses are sometimes described as Jesus' **manifesto**. What evidence is there for and against this reading? Is it a manifesto you could sign up to?
- Read Luke 4: 20 - 22. Describe the atmosphere in the synagogue at this point.
- Read Luke 4: 23 - 27. Why does Jesus seem to provoke the congregation? Had they been pigeonholing God, as Gavin Kibble suggested? Do we do that sometimes?
- Broadly what point is Jesus making with his references to the stories of Elijah and Elisha?
- Gavin reported that the city council had declared that food was a human right in Coventry. Discuss this idea. Why might it not be popular with everyone?
- We heard of the phenomenal growth of the Coventry food bank. It has helped over 200,000 times. It runs 13 or 14 food distribution centres. Its sister charity *Feed the Hungry* sends food to help children overseas. It is also looking at the causes of food poverty. How come it has grown so much?
- Gavin said that the more we let God use us, the more he **will** use us. Discuss this idea. How do we respond to it? How do we let God 'use us more'? Does it relate to Jesus' manifesto?