

Sunday Gathering Liturgy

Grace and Grit, Luke 9:51-62
- Bradley Bell

November 21, 2021

Luke: Upside Down 2

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Call to Worship

Welcome and introduction

This past week the pastors were sitting around a fire and one of the things we were talking about was the state of mental health after the past two years of craziness (that's right, it's been about two years since Covid came our way). We see it in ourselves, and in people both inside and outside the church. Let's be honest—many of us are struggling! Church, we want you to know that we see you.

But even more important than that, you have full access to a resource for life in the pit, a triage for the broken-hearted. It's the God of grace and grit. Listen to him speak of himself through the prophet Isaiah:

[6] I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

[7] But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

[8] He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.
Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.
[9] Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

Isaiah 50:6-9

Church, the God of grace and grit not only is tender enough to bid you come, he's strong enough to get you through. There's no need to pretend in here today. Get that junk outta here. Come with what you've got. Come weak, come limping, come apathetic. You'll find a God with his face set like flint—with his heart set on you. When you're all over the place, he's still in place. So let's sing to him...

0:00 *Great Are You Lord* [Winona in B: B]

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Confession

Church, when our souls are dragging with the past, it's important to acknowledge it and let the Lord sort through it. It's actually part of what allows us to press on. Paul speaks of this in Philippians 3 (say the underlined part with me):

But one thing I do:

****forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*****

15 Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. Philippians 3:13-14

There was a man in our midst who modeled this really well for us, all the way to the end of his life. It was Winona's dad, Jack Mitchell. Listen to this recording of him with his face set of the prize:

Recording of Jack singing

Now let's join our voices with his:

****There'll be no sorrows there
No more burdens to bear
No more sickness and no more pain
No more parting over there
But forever I will be
With the one who died for me
What a day, glorious day that will be
Amen.****

0:00 *Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me* [Default Arrangement in B]

0:00 *Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery* [Default Arrangement in E]

0:00 Posturing Prayer - Worship Team

0:00 Sermon - Luke 9:51-62

0:00 Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

0:00 *When I Survey The Wondrous Cross* [Kiefer Simplified in E]

0:00 *Man Of Sorrows* [Default Arrangement in C]

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Announcements & Benediction

You may be seated. Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! We hope that you have experienced the welcome of Jesus. You may be seated as we give a few next steps from today's gathering.

1) Giving & Visitors - antiochpeople.org/give

2) Family Groups - antiochpeople.org/familygroup

3) Serving - antiochpeople.org/serve

4) Classes - antiochpeople.org/classes

Next Sunday's class - We are off till next year!

5) Diversity discussion group - will meet directly after Gathered in the training room

6) Next Sunday is a baptism Sunday -

Let one of the pastors know if you are interested in being baptized or have questions about baptism.

We begin each gathering with a call to worship and we end with a benediction which simply is a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing. Hold out your hands and posture your heart to receive this blessing:

Church, Jesus Christ called down fire from heaven, and then let it fall on himself instead of you. Therefore may you go into a world still facing the fire, with the grace and grit to follow him wherever he leads you.

Luke 12:49

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Let's say this together: We are sent.

0:00
