

Luke 1:1-4

11/27/16

**“Dear Theophilus”:**  
*An Overview of the Gospel of Luke*  
*Sermon Notes*

- **Our church's mission and vision demand absolute certainty about all that Jesus did and taught**

*-Luke 1:4; Acts 1:1*

**Author:**

Col. 4:14; Philem. 24; 2 Tim. 4:11;  
Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1-28:16

**Date:**

**An Outline of the Gospel of Luke**

- I. Prelude (1:1-2:52)
- II. Preparation (3:1-4:13)
- III. Public Ministry (4:14-9:50)
- IV. Purpose (9:51-19:27)
- V. Passion (19:28-24:53)

**Key Themes & Application for Today:**

**Why should we listen to Luke (1:1-4)?**

1. He has \_\_\_\_\_ accountability (v.1)
2. He grounds his work on \_\_\_\_\_ foundations (v.2)
3. He writes with \_\_\_\_\_ composition (v.3)
4. He is controlled by an \_\_\_\_\_ purpose (v.4)

**Next Week: Luke 1:5-25 - “There Was a Priest Named Zechariah”**

**Community Group Study Guide**  
For the Week of November 27<sup>th</sup> – December 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Please read Luke 1:1-4.**

1. In the first verse, Luke mentions that many have previously undertaken to compile an account of the Gospel narrative.

- a. Do you think the fact that Luke says the other writers "undertook" to do this implies that their results were unsatisfactory or poorly arranged? Why or why not?
- b. Do you think that Luke was critical of the quality of work by previous writers when he says, "it seemed good also to me" in verse 3? Please explain your answer.
- c. Do you think that the gospels written by Matthew and Mark may have been among his sources? Why or why not?

2. In the second verse, Luke claims that those creating a written account have been faithful to the eyewitness testimony (See Acts 4:20).

- a. What does Luke intend to add to the accounts previously written?
- b. Do you think that the eyewitnesses and servants of the Word were the same people? (See Acts 26:16; 1:21-26; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2) Please explain.

3. According to Luke 1:3, how is Luke qualified to write his gospel?

4. Luke 1:4 states his purpose in writing: he wants to confirm the truth behind the traditions that Theophilus had been taught.

- a. Do you think that there were competing accounts of the events surrounding the life, death and resurrection of Jesus? Explain.
- b. Who might have wanted to tell things differently? Why?
- c. Can we use the information in Luke's gospel to evaluate the fidelity of the EFCA's Statement of Faith, just as Luke intends that Theophilus will use it to assess the quality of what he himself has been taught?