

# **FAITH BUILDERS**

TEACHING ON PRAYER AND CHALLENGING UNBELIEF

Luke 11:5-26

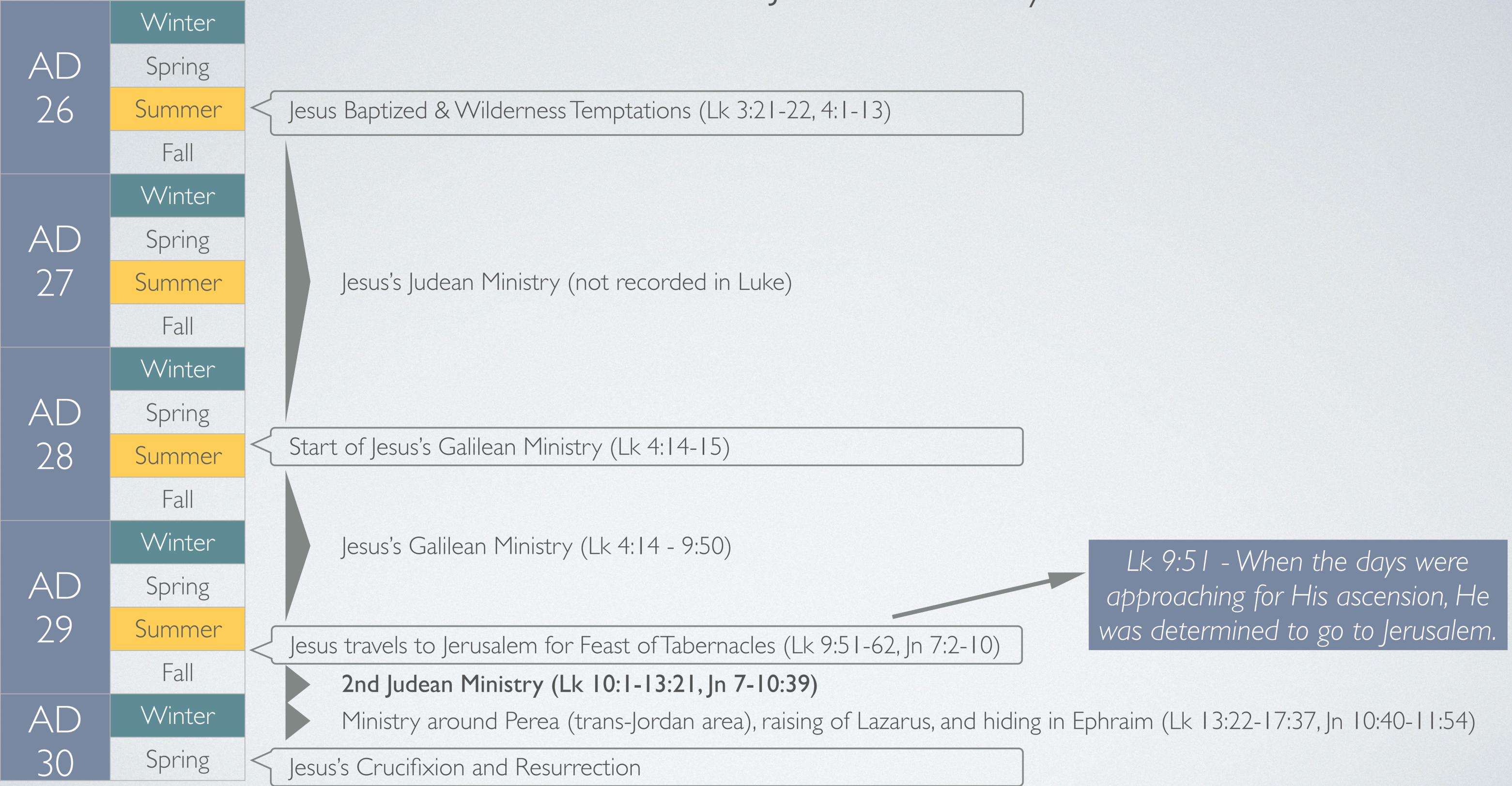
*February 16, 2020*

# Prayer and Unbelief

Theme 1 – God's availability and eagerness to meet the needs of His children by responding to their prayers

Theme 2 - The irrationality of unbelief in Jesus as the Messiah

# Timeline of Jesus's Ministry



# God's availability and eagerness to meet the needs of His children by responding to their prayers (5-13)

## A. Parable - The Persistent Friend (5-10)

- A midnight bread run (5-6)
- You've got to be kidding me! (7)
- Persistence pays off! (8)
- Jesus's application and conclusion (9-10)
  - God is available and eager to meet the needs of everyone who comes to Him in prayer.
  - Thomas Gurnall – Prayer is nothing but the promise reversed, or God's Word formed into an argument, and retorted by faith upon God again.
  - Pray with boldness and persistence (Heb 4:16)
  - God has established the prayers of His people as a means by which He accomplishes His plans and brings Himself maximum glory.

# God's availability and eagerness to meet the needs of His children by responding to their prayers (5-13)

## B. Illustration - God's goodness in answering prayer (11-13)

- The illustration (11-12)
- Application (13)
  - God meets the needs of His children with good things.
  - Good things = the Holy Spirit
    - Conviction of sin – John 16:7-8
    - Regeneration – Titus 3:4-6, John 3:3-7
    - Seals believers – Eph 1:13
    - Fills and leads – Rom 8:14, rom 12:1-2, Eph 5:18, Col 3:16
    - Helps us and intercedes for us in our prayers – Rom 8:26-27
    - Strengthens – Eph 3:16
    - Teaches – 1 John 2:27
    - Source of and power behind spiritual gifts – 1 Cor 12:4-11
    - Renews and sanctifies – Rom 8:10-11, 2 Thess 2:13
    - Helps us to avoid sin – Gal 5:16
    - Produces godly fruit – Gal 5:22-23

## The Irrationality of Unbelief (14-26)

- A. Jesus casts out a mute demon (14)
- B. The crowd's controversy (15-16)
  - Group 1 - Those who rejected Jesus outright
  - Group 2 - Those who wanted to see more signs- Jesus will address in vs. 29
- C. Jesus's Defense (17-26)
  - The claim that Jesus casts out demons by the power of Satan is non-sensical. (17-18)
  - Comparison to the supposed Jewish exorcists (19-20)
  - Jesus's continued success against demon possession clearly demonstrates that He is stronger than Satan and demons. (21-22)
  - Warning! – there is no middle ground (23)
  - Jesus mocks the inadequacy of the Jewish exorcists (24-26)
  - Point - the total irrationality of unbelief
    - Why do people reject the truth in the light of clear evidence?
    - Answer: John 3:19-20 - sinners love the darkness and hate the light