

# If Jesus Were to Sit Among Us

Scripture Reading: *Luke 4:16-30*

## I. It is 28 A.D. in Nazareth of Galilee

- A. You are sitting in the local synagogue, and Jesus has returned (*Luke 4:16*).
- B. He reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah (*Luke 4:17-19*).
- C. Anticipation mounts as to what this son-of-a-carpenter-turned Rabbi will say (*Luke 4:20-22*).
- D. Jesus reminds his audience of two Old Testament accounts.
  - 1. **Elijah**, who was sent to a widow in Zarephath (*Luke 4:23-26*).
  - 2. **Naaman the Syrian**, who of all the lepers in Israel, was healed (*Luke 4:27*).
- E. The enraged response of all in the synagogue (*Luke 4:28-30*).

## II. It is 2010 in Columbus, Ohio and it is time to make application of *Luke 4:16-30*

### A. Jesus knew who he was.

- 1. He found the place written about himself.
- 2. Have you? (*Matt 5:13-14; 1 Cor 3:16-17; 6:9-11; Gal 3:26-29; 1 Pet 2:9; John 15:5*)

### B. What happens if we sit in our own “synagogue” with little regard for:

- 1. The poor?
- 2. The captives?
- 3. The blind?
- 4. Those who are oppressed?

### C. What happens if I am individually deceived when it comes to my own spirituality?

- 1. The “poor” can include people of all social grades.
- 2. The “captives” may walk about quite freely.
- 3. The “blind” may have perfect 20/20 vision.
- 4. The “oppressed” may appear to be in complete control.

### D. Am I willing to listen to the “hard sayings” of Jesus right along with the pleasant ones?