

**Greenforest Community Baptist Church**  
3250 Rainbow Drive / Decatur, GA 30034 / Pastor Berry  
Bible Study Overview – September 8, 2020

<b>Date</b>	<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Lesson</b>
August 26, 2020	Luke 19:28-34	<b><u>“What’s going on in the VILLAGE?”</u></b>

*\*Nugget – Where do we see God at work amid our worldwide pandemic, global protests, and pending national political election? What is Christ calling us to do amid the constant confusion, calamity, and chaos in our communities? Today, we will learn how we can redeem the village.*

**I. African Religions & Philosophy** by John S. Mbiti.

“For African peoples the family has a much larger circle than that of European and North American cultures. In traditional society the family includes children, parents, and grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, and sisters who may have their own children, and other immediate relatives”.

“The family also includes the departed relatives whom we have designated as the living dead. These are, as the name implies, “alive” in the memories of their surviving families and are thought to be still interested in the affairs of the family to which they belonged in the physical life.”

“The African concept of family also includes the unborn members who are still in the loins of the living. They are the buds of hope and expectation, and each family makes sure that its own expectation is not extinguished”.

“the household is the smallest unit of the family, consisting of the children, parents, and sometimes grandparents. It is what one might call the “family at night”, for it is generally at night that the household is itself. At night, the parents are with their children in the same house”.

“The village is the area or compound by which one household or many households dwell. It includes the houses, gardens, fields, cattle shed, granaries, the courtyard, the threshing ground, the men’s outdoor fireplace, the children’s playground, and family shrines”.

**II. African proverbs on family, community, & the VILLAGE**

1. It takes a village to raise a child. ~ African proverb
2. Unity is strength, division is weakness. ~ Swahili proverb
3. Sticks in a bundle are unbreakable. ~ Bondei prover
4. Many hands make light work. ~ Haya (Tanzania) proverb
5. If I am in harmony with my family, that’s success. ~ Ute proverb
6. When brothers fight to the death, a stranger inherits their father’s estate. ~ Ibo proverb
7. The old woman looks after the child to grow its teeth and the young one in turn looks after the old woman when she loses her teeth. ~ Akan (Ghana, Ivory Coast) proverb
8. Bad friends will prevent you from having good friends. ~ Gabon proverb

**III. History of the Text**

1. The Gospel of Luke & the book of Acts were once one book.
2. Luke captured much of his research from Mark’s Gospel.
3. Luke is a Doctor/Physician by training and was amazed by Jesus’ miraculous healings.
4. Luke was very detailed oriented and descriptive about Jesus’ relationship with women

5. Luke depicts Jesus as a prophet, revolutionary, and liberator.
6. Luke was determined to write about the conception, commandments, compassion, & crucifixion, and second coming of Christ.
7. Jesus had love for the village and wanted to liberate of the village.
8. Many say they have “love for the village but aren’t to do anything to help liberate the village.
9. Many say they are trying to liberate the village but do not necessary love the village.

**IV. What do we know about the village?**

1. Village in Greek is “kome”
2. “Village” appears in Luke 24:13-35 – Two men on the way to Emmaus
3. “Village” appears in Luke 10 –Martha and Mary

**V. VOIDS in our modern-day village that are concerning**

1. Voids in fatherhood
2. Voids in parenting
3. Voids in mentoring

**VI. Based on the National Fatherhood Initiative, children in Fatherless homes are:**

1. 4x more likely to live in poverty
2. More likely to have a behavioral problem
3. 2x greater to experience infant mortality
4. More likely to go to prison
5. More likely to commit a crime

**VII. When there is a father in the home, children are:**

1. 7x less likely to get pregnant as a teen
2. 2x less likely to drop out of school
3. 2x less likely to suffer from obesity
4. Less likely to experience child abuse
5. Less likely to abuse drugs

**VIII. Vacancies in our modern-day village that are concerning**

1. Banks & Credit Unions
2. Black owned business
3. Sit down restaurants
4. Quality grade schools
5. Well-equipped hospitals
6. Quality grocery stores

**IX. Violence in our modern-day village that is concerning**

1. Excessive Police Brutality
2. Domestic violence
3. Black on Black Crime
4. Mass Shootings
5. Drug addiction and distribution
6. Child Abuse
7. YouTube fight videos

## **X. Research by the National Coalition on Domestic Violence**

1. 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.
2. 1 in 7 women and 1 in 18 men have been stalked by an intimate partner during their lifetime
3. More than 20,000 phone calls are placed daily to domestic violence hotlines nationwide
4. The presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500%.
5. 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men in the United States has been raped in their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>
6. Almost half of female (46.7%) and male (44.9%) victims of rape in the United States were raped by an acquaintance.
7. 19.3 million women and 5.1 million men in the United States have been stalked in their lifetime.
8. 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner; 94% of the victims of these murder suicides are female.
9. 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence.

## **XI. Other challenges in the modern-day VILLAGE**

1. Vultures – Praying on our elderly, predatory reverse mortgages, & outrageous property taxes
2. Victimization - Rape, sexual abuse, domestic violence, & subpar healthcare facilities
3. Vandalism – Unkept roadways, defaced property, & loitering
4. Vulgarity – Kids cussing, ladies calling each other female dogs, & men calling each other the “N” word.

## **XII. MAIN POINTS**

### **Pt. 1 – Jesus saw VALUABLE life in the village – (v.29-30)**

<sup>29</sup> As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, <sup>30</sup> “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

### **Pt. 2 – Jesus told them to use their VOICES in the Village – (v.31-32)**

<sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, “Why are you untying it?” say, “The Lord needs it.” Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them

### **Pt. 3 – Jesus had long-term VISION for the VILLAGE – (v.33-34)**

<sup>33</sup> As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup> They replied, “The Lord needs it.”