

Table Host Discussion Guide

Week 1: The Timing and the Touch of God

This week's teaching traced the theme of God's timing across the opening chapters of the Gospels. Jesus did not arrive randomly; He came "when the set time had fully come," at God's appointed *kairos* moment, ushering in the kingdom of God (Galatians 4:4–5; Mark 1:15). The Gospels anchor Jesus in real history (Luke 3:1–2), while also showing that His identity and mission unfolded with purposeful restraint: Satan searched for an "opportune time" (Luke 4:13), demons feared the "appointed time" (Matthew 8:29), and even well-meaning people could not rush His "hour" (John 2:4). Paul calls this plan the "mystery" of God's wisdom—hidden until the right time—because the rulers of this age did not understand that redemption would come through suffering love, not domination (1 Corinthians 2:7–8). Our study this week culminates in the healing of the leper, revealing what God's timing feels like in human life: Jesus steps toward the unclean and touches the untouchable—bringing cleansing, dignity, and restoration.

Discussion Questions

1. In the teaching, we talked about "chronos" time and "kairos" time. What's the difference, and why does it matter for following Jesus?
 - **Application:** Where are you tempted to interpret delays as "God forgot," instead of "God is working on a timetable I can't see"? What would it look like to trust Him with your season right now?
2. In Luke 4, what pattern do you see in Satan's temptations—and how might that pattern show up in our lives?
 - **Application:** What is one "shortcut" you're tempted to take right now—control, compromise, rushing a decision, seeking approval, using power to protect yourself? What Scripture truth do you need ready for your next "opportune time"?
3. Why do you think the demons in Matthew 8 feared the "appointed time," and what does that teach us about spiritual warfare and God's authority?
 - **Application:** Where do you feel fear or intimidation from darkness—temptation, anxiety, oppression, shame? How would your mindset change if you truly believed evil is on a leash and God has an "appointed time" for justice?
4. Paul says God's wisdom was a "mystery" and that the rulers didn't understand it. Why was the cross so hard to comprehend?
 - **Application:** When you picture "God showing up," do you expect Him to fix things through force, comfort, and quick outcomes—or through transformation, surrender, and holiness? What's one area where you need to let Jesus redefine what "victory" looks like?
5. Why is the leper story such a powerful picture of the kingdom—and what does it tell us about Jesus?
 - **Application:** What part of your life feels "untouchable"—shame, hidden sin, grief, loneliness, wounds, feeling unworthy? What would it look like to bring that honestly to Jesus this week, believing He moves toward you and not away?