



## Small Group Study Guide The Counterfeit Gospel

Series: Luke, The Good Doctor  
Tracy Pounders, Pastor | CrossPointe Church | January 12, 2025

**OPEN THE GROUP WITH PRAYER.**

### LET'S TALK IT OVER

**SCRIPTURE FOR THIS SERMON:** Luke 3:1-14 (ESV)

**ICE BREAKER:** Ask a couple of people to share the story of when they gave their life to Jesus. What was the final thing that pulled you to seek God's forgiveness and give Him your life?

-----

### Three Big Takeaways from this Week's Message:

1. Our problem is **SIN**.

**SERMON QUOTE:** *"We are sinners by nature. David declares in the Psalms he was wicked from his mother's womb. We, like him, are born in sin. Our parents had to teach us to behave. They didn't have to teach us to be sinners. We were born with that. It came naturally."*

**QUESTION:** What did you think about when PT said we have to teach our kids to behave, not how to sin? Was this a good illustration? What was the hardest behavior to teach your kids or that your parents had teaching you?

2. The Solution is **REPENTANCE**.

**SERMON QUOTE:** *"Repentance is a change of heart, a changed mind and a changed life. It is turning away from sin to God by faith, through Jesus."*

**QUESTION:** There are more and more churches and pastors who are affirming sin rather than calling people to repent and turn away from their sin. How important is it to you that we be a church that speaks the TRUTH in love? We all have family who are running from God. What do you think it will take to reach them?

3. This is all demonstrated by **BAPTISM**.

**QUESTION:** Briefly share your baptism story with the group.

-----

**SERMON QUOTE:** *"In this text, John rebukes his listeners and calls them all a brood of vipers. Why? Because they have no plans to turn away from their religion. Religion is man's effort to connect with God without Jesus. Religion is man's effort to God's favor and approval by performance, duty, or his own goodness. But when you try to work around faith in Christ, it is contempt in the eyes of God! Or to paraphrase the words of Paul from Philippians chapter 3, 'Your religion is garbage!'"*

**QUESTION:** PT went on to say, *“We make rules that aren’t in the Bible and want everybody to live by our rules. But our attempt to earn God’s favor by performance is to disgrace the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross! What Jesus did is enough! What we would do outside of that will never be enough!”*

WHAT IS THE CRAZIEST “RULE” YOU HAVE EVER KNOWN A CHURCH TO MAKE THAT HAS NO BIBLICAL MERIT? You can go as far back in your life as you want to for an answer.

---

## HOW DO WE FORSAKE OUR SIN AND FOLLOW JESUS?

1. It starts with **CONVICTION**.
2. The next step is **CONFESSION**.
3. Then comes **REPENTANCE**.
4. Next is **RESTITUTION**.
5. And then **BAPTISM**.

PT also identified the following things as a Counterfeit Gospel:

- A Counterfeit Gospel tolerates **CONFESSION** without **REPENTANCE**.
- A Counterfeit Gospel tolerates **RELIGIOUS REPENTANCE**.
- A Counterfeit Gospel tolerates **PAGAN REPENTANCE**.
- A Counterfeit Gospel tolerates **EXCUSE-MAKING REPENTANCE**.
- A Counterfeit Gospel tolerates never preaches **RESTITUTION**.

PT said, *“If you stole a pressure washer from your work place, felt bad about – that’s CONVICTION. If you told God you were sorry and would never do it again, that’s CONFESSION. When you realized you couldn’t keep it after confessing it to God, you took it back. That’s RESTITUTION.”*

PT told the story of JC Broach who stole money from Gate Petroleum when he worked there years ago. He took \$1400 out of the cash register and reported it as a robbery. Years later, he repented and God put it in his heart to make restitution. He found the original company’s owner, sent him a letter of apology with a \$1400 check enclosed. He told him he was sorry and had given his life to God. The owner of Gate Petroleum sent him back a check for \$2800 to help our church. He told him he had never had anyone make restitution like that before.

**QUESTION:** How do you feel about restitution? Have you ever had to do it? Share that story with the group before you close in prayer.

---

**THANK YOU FOR BEING AN AWESOME CROSSPOINTE GROUP! WE LOVE YOU ALL!!!**

**SEE YOU NEXT SUNDAY AT CROSSPOINTE!**

**PLEASE TAKE A GROUP PICTURE AND TAG ME IN IT! ~ PT**