The need for a Saviour  
Genesis 3; Luke 1 v 1–4

Jesus fulfils Isaiah’s prophecy  
Isaiah 61 v 1–2; Luke 4 v 16–30

Jesus: the young person  
Luke 2

Jesus: the man with a mission  
Luke 3 v 1 – 4 v 15

Jesus proves He is the Saviour  
Luke 4 v 31–44

Jesus calls people to follow Him  
Luke 5 v 1–11, 27–32

Jesus’ followers have eternal life  
Luke 20 v 1–19

Jesus moves towards the cross  
Isaiah 53; Luke 9, 18, 22

Who is worthy?  
Isaiah 53; Luke 22 v 1 – 23 v 25

Jesus: power to give new life  
Luke 23 v 44 – 24 v 8
ON THE TRAIL OF THE REAL JESUS

UNIT INTRODUCTION
This unit is based on Jesus’ life, death and resurrection as presented in Luke’s gospel.

Unit aim
To teach the children that God’s Word is trustworthy and that Jesus fulfilled all the prophecies relating to the Messiah.

Unit outcomes
By the end of this unit the children will:

- know that Luke’s writings were well-researched and reliable
- understand that all people are in need of a Saviour
- know that prophecies were given about the identity of the Messiah or Saviour
- appreciate that Jesus fulfilled these prophecies and was the promised Saviour
- have opportunity to respond to Jesus as the Messiah for the forgiveness of sin and belong to God’s family.

Memory verses

Sessions 1–3
All of us have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory. Romans 3 v 23 (CEV)

Sessions 4–6
A voice from heaven said, ‘You are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you.’
Luke 3 v 22b (CEV)

Sessions 7–8
But Jesus told the woman, ‘Because of your faith, you are now saved.’ Luke 7 v 50a (CEV)

Session 9–10
But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, He freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins.
Romans 3 v 24 (CEV)
Notes for leaders

**Bible background**

This unit is designed to look at evidence given in the Bible that points to Jesus as the promised Saviour. Prophecies from the books of Isaiah, Micah and the Psalms are examined in the light of the Gospel according to Luke. The birth, life and ministry of Jesus are examined to see if they confirm Jesus’ claim that He was the Messiah. The children are also challenged as to their response to the claims of Jesus.

**Session 1** examines the reliability of Luke’s account of the life and ministry of Jesus and also his motivation for writing his Gospel. The session also examines the consequences of Adam and Eve’s sin for all people and the need for a Saviour.

**Session 2** looks in detail at Isaiah 61 v 1, 2 and Jesus’ claim to have fulfilled this Messianic prophecy (Luke 4 v 18–21).

**Session 3** explores Jesus’ humanity and the reaction of Simeon and Anna when Jesus was brought to the temple (Luke 2 v 22–38). Prophecies regarding the Messiah’s birthplace and ancestry are also examined.

**Session 4** deals with the baptism and temptation of Jesus. The session is designed to lead the children to an appreciation of the importance of Jesus being sinless so He could pay the penalty for our sin.

The ministry of Jesus is examined in the light of Isaiah 61 v 1, 2. This Scripture gives an outline of the role of the Messiah. In **Session 5** the children examine the evidence in the book of Luke to see if Jesus fulfilled these tasks.

**Session 6** focuses on the call of Jesus for people to follow Him. In particular, it looks at the responses of Simon Peter and Levi to Jesus’ call. This session also challenges the children as to who they ‘follow’.

**Session 7** looks at the reaction of different people to Jesus. The parable of the tenants is studied to introduce the children to the fact that those who reject Jesus miss out on eternal life with God.

**Session 8** continues to have the children examine the ministry of Jesus to see if He fulfilled the prophetic words of Isaiah 53 v 2, 10, 11. These verses foretold the death of the Messiah and the reasons behind the need for the Saviour to die a sacrificial death. This theme is continued in **Session 9** where the prophecies in Isaiah 53 v 6, 8, 11 are studied by the children. Again the children examine the writings of Luke to see if Jesus fulfils these prophecies.

**Session 10** shows Jesus as victor over sin and death. Evidence is examined to show that Jesus had in fact risen from the dead as prophesied (Psalm 16 v 10, 11). What the resurrection accomplished is examined and the children challenged as to their response to Jesus’ call to follow Him.

**Faith development**

Children grow and develop physically, emotionally, cognitively and spiritually at different rates and in different ways. This unit aims to encourage growth in faith for each child at their own pace. No matter where each child is at in their faith development, they can be challenged to respond in faith to God and in obedience to the way He wants them to live.

Faith has been described as having four aspects: believing, imagining, trusting and doing. (See *Children finding faith* by Francis Bridger, SJ.) Believing involves having faith in the truth of the gospel and a reliance on the promises of God in Christ. Imagining involves creatively exploring our beliefs. Trusting involves the relational side of faith. Doing is the way we act as an outworking of our faith. Children, like adults, benefit from learning approaches that involve exploring faith from each of these four aspects. These sessions have been written with this in mind.

**Visual aids**

The Leader’s pack includes:

- the Leader’s manual with ten sessions
- a full-colour Rescue chart poster and Bible verse cut-outs
- a full-colour Books of the Bible poster
- three full-colour Memory verse posters
- a sample Children’s notebook. Extra notebooks may be purchased so every child can complete the pages associated with the sessions.

‘On the trail of the real Jesus’ theme

This unit is characterised by a ‘detective’ theme, in which the children examine the evidence through the eyes of Doctor Luke. The child’s take-home component is a notebook. The notebook contains activities for each of the sessions. These activities help the children in their study to discover the real Jesus.
**Rescue poster**
The Rescue chart poster should be displayed each session. The leader should cut out the appropriate Bible verse from the accompanying visual aid and add it to the poster. This helps to provide a record of what has been studied and gives an overall picture of God's rescue plan for His people. It also provides a way of revising the content of the sessions.

**Investigator's file**
The Investigator's file is introduced in Session 4. This gives the children the opportunity to ask questions about the sessions or to research answers to questions raised by others.

Make an Investigator’s file by writing 'Investigator’s file, Top secret' on the cover of a manila folder. Encourage the children to place their questions in the folder each week. Rather than answer the children’s questions yourself, try to direct the children to the place where they can find the answers to the questions for themselves.

**Bibles**
It is intended that during each session the children will read the Bible for themselves and think about how they can respond to its message. It is strongly recommended that children begin to handle the Bible for themselves, learn their way around it and discuss what it means.

**Relationships**
As children of this age grow in faith, their relationships with other Christians will be very important. You have an important role as an example to them. Be warm and genuine in your relationships with the children. Pray for them and their concerns. Invite other Christians of various ages to visit and meet the group. It would be especially helpful for young people, a few years older than the children in your group, to meet them. Help the children see where they are heading as part of the community of God's people.

**Activities**
Each session contains many suggested activities, either to begin the session in Start up or to reinforce the Teaching time. When choosing the activities you will include in each session, consider the number of children in your group, their individual skills, as well as the time and space you have available. Try to encourage a wide range of activities so that the different learning skills of the children will be catered for.

A Memory verse activity is included in each session and presented in an interactive way so that the children will begin to build their own personal store of Bible verses.

**Photocopiable masters**
The Leader's manual contains photocopiable masters including memory verse ideas and worksheets.

Encourage the children to take the appropriate photocopiable home each week as this helps parents and carers to know what is being covered in the sessions. Purchase of the Leader's pack entitles you to make one copy for each member of your group.

**Music spot**
The sessions recommend songs from these CDs, all available from The Good Book Company (0845 225 0880 www.thegoodbook.co.uk)

- Promises, promises, CEP
- Practise being godly, Colin Buchanan
- The King, the snake and the promise, Emu Music
- Meet the King, Emu Music
Aim
To help the children understand that not all people believe in and trust Jesus.

Outcomes
By the end of this session the children will:

- know that Jesus calls people to trust Him as Saviour
- appreciate that rejecting Jesus has the consequence of missing eternal life with God
- understand that those who trust Jesus have eternal life.

But Jesus told the woman, ‘Because of your faith, you are now saved.’ Luke 7 v 50a (CEV)

Notes for leaders


The religious leaders questioned Jesus regarding His authority to teach. The leaders were not truly seeking God, but were striving to preserve their own position and power.

John the Baptist was widely regarded by the people as being a prophet of God (Luke 20 v 6). Jesus asked who gave John the right to baptise—God or humans? The leaders knew that if they said that God had given John authority to baptise, then they would also have to acknowledge that John had pointed to Jesus as being the Messiah. The leaders were more concerned about their position than the truth and refused to give a definitive answer. Jesus also refused to answer their question. However, Jesus told a parable which was prophetic in nature.

The parable of the vineyard gave a clear picture of God’s love of Israel. Israel had been pictured as God’s vineyard in the Old Testament (Isaiah 5 v 1–7). The owner of the vineyard was God. The tenants represented the leaders of Israel. The servants who were abused by the tenants symbolised God’s prophets. Jesus was the son of the vineyard owner.

Jesus asked what the owner would do to the tenants when he came in person. The leaders answered correctly and, in so doing, foretold the fate of those who would not trust in Jesus (Matthew 21 v 41). Jesus quoted Psalm 118 v 22, which was fulfilled in His rejection and also by His essential role in salvation. (This psalm celebrates God’s steadfast love and His righteous vindication of the faithful who are oppressed.)

The leaders were indignant and sought opportunity to arrest Jesus, which ironically confirmed the truth of the parable.

Leader’s prayer
Ask God to help you to remain passionate about bringing His Word to those who are lost. Pray for opportunities where you may share the gospel in your community. Pray that the children will carefully consider what they believe and that they will always walk with Jesus as His followers.
Chat time

Lead the following discussion.

We were given a choice to do the activity on our card or to receive a ‘Consequence’ card. We didn’t know what the ‘Consequence’ card would have written on it.

In life we often have choices. Our choices often have consequences. Sometimes we know what the consequences will be. Other times we do not know what will happen as a result of our choice.

What do you think a consequence of studying hard at school may be? (Accept responses.)

What could be a consequence of not looking before crossing a road? (Accept responses.)

What do you think was the message behind the activity where we scored points for what we look like or what we have? (Accept responses. It was to remind us that Jesus loves us no matter who we are, what we look like or what we have done, and to remember that all who love and trust Jesus have eternal life.)

Bible focus

Give each child a Bible to refer to during Bible focus.

Remind the children to place any questions they have about the sessions in the Investigator’s file.

Links

One of the things we studied last session was how Simon Peter came to follow Jesus. Let’s revise the events in the story.

STORY CIRCLE: Ask the children to sit in a circle on the floor. Explain that you are going to start the story about how Simon Peter came to follow Jesus and that each person is to add something else from the events Luke recorded in the Bible. Start by saying, ‘Jesus was teaching the crowd at Lake Gennesaret about the kingdom of God’. Choose a child to add to the story; then continue around the circle.

We also heard about how Levi was called by Jesus to follow Him. Levi was a tax collector and the Pharisees complained about Jesus spending time with him and eating with Levi and his friends.

Why did the Pharisees complain about this? (Accept responses. The Pharisees thought that Jesus shouldn’t mix with sinners.)
Why didn’t this really make sense? (Accept responses. All people are sinful—Romans 3 v 23—and so it didn’t matter who Jesus ate with, He would still be eating with sinners! Jesus came to earth to bring sinners back to God.)

Jesus continues to call people to follow Him today.

What is involved in following Jesus? (Accept responses. Remind the children that people need to stop trusting in things such as money, good looks or physical strength and put their trust in Jesus for salvation.)

Ask the children to think about this next sentence but not to answer verbally.

Think about something that you trust in that you may need to leave behind as you continue to trust Jesus.

If Jesus was born into today's society, who do you think He would mix with? Is there anyone Jesus wouldn’t mix with? (Accept responses.)

Today we are going to continue to look at the life of Jesus through the eyes of Doctor Luke. We will learn that some people who were called by Jesus chose not to follow Him.

Teaching time

The Pharisees and other religious leaders in Israel held very important positions. They taught in the temple and helped to rule the nation.

People had heard about Jesus and they wanted to listen to Him teach at the temple.

How do you think the religious leaders may have felt about this? (Accept responses. Lead the children to understand that many may have felt threatened because Jesus’ popularity was increasing.)

The religious leaders had complained about Jesus when He had eaten with Levi. Now they complained about Him teaching in the temple. They wanted to know who gave Him the authority to teach about the good news of God’s kingdom.

Who do you think gave Jesus the authority to preach the good news? (Accept responses. God.)

What evidence have we studied that would make you believe that it was God who gave Jesus authority to preach the good news? (Accept responses. Consider the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies, such as He was born in Bethlehem, He was from the family of David, He healed the sick, He set prisoners free and so on.)

The religious leaders saw Jesus as a threat to their own authority and wanted Him out of the way.

But Jesus didn’t answer their question. Instead Jesus told the people a story or parable.

Read the following passage while the children follow in their Bibles. (See the Drama suggestion in the Ideas menu for a way to make this more active.)

Read Luke 20 v 9–15

Jesus said that He had been sent to tell the good news.

Why do you think Jesus told this story about a man who owned a vineyard, his son, his servants and the people to whom he rented the vineyard? (Accept responses. Jesus told the story to tell the people about how God loved them and wanted them to trust Jesus so they could live as His friends.)

Perhaps the story would make more sense if I told you that the story is really about the people of God, Jesus and God’s prophets.

NOTEBOOKS: Give a Children’s notebook and a pen or pencil to each child. Ask the children to look at page 12 in their notebooks. Explain that they are to find out what Jesus’ hidden message was in His story. Ask them to listen again to the story and see if they can work out who represented God, Jesus, the prophets and the Israelites in the story.


Ask the children to join the right groups together in the notebook. (The answers are: The vineyard owner = God; The servants = prophets sent by God; The renters/tenants = people of Israel; The owner’s son = Jesus.)

Let’s see if the parable is easier to understand if I tell it this way...

God brought His people to the Promised Land where they could live as His people. But they turned away from God. God sent prophets to tell the people how to live His way but they beat them up. He sent more prophets but the people insulted them and beat them up too.

God then said to Himself, ‘Now I’ll send my Son, Jesus, the one I love so much, to save them from the consequences of sin.’

When the people of Israel and the religious leaders saw Jesus, they said to one another, ‘Someday He will take our place. Let’s kill Him! Then we can have it all for ourselves.’ So they rejected Him and Jesus was put to death on a cross.
What was the attitude of God towards the people of Israel? (Accept responses. He wanted the best for them. He wanted them to live as His people. He gave them many warnings so they would turn back to Him and live His way.)

What was the attitude of the Israelites towards God? (Accept responses. They rejected His prophets and His Son, Jesus.)

What do people receive when they turn to God and trust in Jesus? (Accept responses. Eternal life as a friend of God.)

But what happens when people don’t turn to God and trust in Jesus? Listen to what Jesus said next...


The verse means that the people who reject Jesus and don’t put their trust in Him will not have eternal life as God’s friends.

We may not have known at first what this story was really about, but the religious leaders did. They knew that Jesus was talking about them. They knew He was saying that they had rejected God and His Messiah.

What could the leaders now do? (Accept responses. The leaders could continue to reject Jesus or they could turn back to God by trusting in Jesus as the Saviour.)

The leaders had a choice.

What would be the consequence of trusting Jesus? (Accept responses. Eternal life as God’s friends.)

What would be the consequence of not trusting Jesus? (Accept responses. Unable to live eternally as God’s friends.)

NOTEBOOKS: Ask the children to look back to page 12 in the Children’s notebook. Ask them to complete the puzzle to find out what choice the religious leaders made. (Please note that this puzzle is based on the CEV version of the Bible. If your Bibles are a different version, give each child a copy of the CEV passage taken from the photocopiable on page 42.)

The religious leaders rejected Jesus. Listen to what they did.


Jesus wanted the religious leaders to put their trust in Him. Jesus still wants people today to put their trust in Him. All people still need to choose if they are going to trust Jesus or reject Him. For each choice we also need to remember that there is a consequence.

Take a minute just to think about who you think Jesus is and what your response to Him is.

Collect the Children’s notebooks ready for the next session.

Activities

Do the Rescue chart activity first, then choose other activities from the Ideas menu if time permits.

Bringing it together

Imagine you were speaking to someone who had never heard of Jesus.

What would you tell them about Jesus and His life, ministry (work) and message? (Accept responses. Each individual.)

What are the consequences of following Jesus? (Accept responses. Eternal life as God’s friends.)

What would you tell them about Jesus and His life, ministry (work) and message? (Accept responses. Each individual.)

What are the consequences of not trusting Jesus? (Accept responses. Unable to live eternally as God’s friends.)

Prayer

You were given some time to think about what your response to Jesus is.

I am going to say a prayer to tell Jesus that I want to always follow Him. If you want to follow Jesus as your Saviour, you may silently say the prayer after me.

Say the following prayer slowly so the children have time to repeat it silently.

Father God,
Thank You that you sent Jesus to rescue me from sin and death. I am sorry for not always living Your way. Help me to always love and trust Jesus. Help me to follow Him always.
Amen.

(Note to leaders: It will be helpful to have copies of a suitable children’s tract available for any children who want to find out more about following Jesus. Eg: Who will be King?, published by Matthias Media, available from The Good Book Company. Tel 0845 225 0880 or see www.thegoodbook.co.uk)
**Ideas Menu**

### Consequences

**Purpose:** To show that there are consequences for our choices.

**Gear:**
- A copy of the Choice and Consequence visual aid (page 41), cut into individual cards
- Choice of two rewards such as a chocolate bar or sticker. Check for food allergies before handing out food.

Explain that you have some activities that you would like the children to do. Ask a volunteer to take a ‘Choice’ card and read out the task. However, if they would prefer not to do that activity, they can choose to hand their card in and do a different activity from the ‘Consequence’ cards. For example, a child may choose not to sing a song but may have to stand on one leg as a consequence. Take care not to force any child to do something that embarrasses them. Make sure you have rewards for any child who gets a ‘reward’ card. You may like to take the first turn to encourage the children to participate.

### Point score club

**Purpose:** To encourage the children to think about what is important in following Jesus.

**Gear:**
- A list of twelve personal qualities, possessions or traits, such as black hair, blue eyes, own a bike, own a skateboard, shy, confident, enjoy watching sport and so on
- A piece of paper and a pen for each child
- A copy of the Certificate photocopiable (page 40) for each child.

Hand out a piece of paper and a pen to each child. Explain that you are going to say twelve things. If the statement is true of the child they are to give themselves ten points. If it is not true they do not receive any points. If the statement is partially true they receive five points. At the end of the game the children are to add up their points. Ask the children how many points they received. Hand out a certificate to each child.

To make this game more active, ask the children to stand up, turn around, and sit down each time they score ten points. Ask them at the end how many points they have, and then hand a certificate to each child.

### Drama

Read Luke 20 v 9–15 while the children follow in their Bibles. Then choose some children to be the vineyard owner, his three servants, the owner’s son and the renters/tenants.

Ask the children to mime the story as you read Luke 20 v 9–15 again. Pause after each verse to give the children time to act out each part of the story.

### Rescue chart

Attach the Luke 20 v 13 cut-out to the appropriate space on the Leader’s poster—Rescue chart. Quickly revise the Bible verses from the previous sessions.

### Music spot

Choose from the following songs.

- **Jesus, He’s the one**, track 15 on CEP’s Promises, promises CD.
- **More like Jesus**, track 20 on Colin Buchanan’s Practise being godly CD.

### Which way?

Display the Which way? visual aid (page 39). Discuss the meaning of this sign in light of what has been studied in the past two sessions. Contrast the response of Simon Peter and Levi with that of the religious leaders.

Give the children an A4 sheet of paper and invite them to make their own signs that may challenge people to think about their response to Jesus. This sign may summarise the main message behind the parable the children studied today.

### Your story

You may like to take this opportunity to tell the children the circumstances surrounding your coming to trust Jesus as your Saviour. Alternatively, you might like to ask one of the youth leaders to come to tell the children about their experience of knowing and trusting Jesus.
Memory verse

Give each child a copy of the memory verse photocopiable (page 38). Ask the children to complete the puzzle to find out the memory verse.

*But Jesus told the woman, ‘Because of your faith, you are now saved.’* Luke 7 v 50a (CEV)

Discuss the verse with the children. Point out that the faith the woman had was in Jesus and not in anyone or anything else.

If appropriate, read Luke 7 v 36–50 with the children. (Or you can wait until next week’s session, when this will again be the memory verse.)

Investigator’s file

Read any appropriate questions that have been placed in the file. You may ask the children to respond to the questions or you may answer the questions yourself.

You may prefer to direct the children as to where they may find the answer.

Encourage the children to think about what they would like to know about Jesus and to add their question to the file.

Digging deeper

After Jesus had told the parable and said that the vineyard owner would let someone else have the vineyard, the people said, ‘This must never happen’.

Listen to what Jesus then said.

Read Luke 20 v 17–18 while the children follow in their Bibles.

*Jesus is not really talking about a stone.*

Who do you think the stone represents? (Accept responses. Jesus.)

When large buildings are constructed a cornerstone is used. It is the most important stone of all and without it the building will eventually collapse.

How do you think that Jesus is like a ‘cornerstone’? (Accept responses. He is the main part of God’s plan of salvation to build His kingdom. Unless people turn to God through Jesus they are unable to be a part of His kingdom.)

Many years before Jesus was born in Bethlehem someone wrote this in a psalm...

Read Psalm 118 v 22 while the children follow in their Bibles.

*How does this help us to see that Jesus truly was the Messiah?* (Accept responses. Jesus was rejected by the people and so fulfilled this prophecy.)

Think about it

Some children may have turned to God through Jesus for the first time.

How can you encourage them to keep living the faith?

Think ahead

You will need Leader’s poster—Rescue chart and the Bible verse cut-out—Isaiah 53 v 6, as well as Leader’s poster—Books of the Bible and the Investigator’s file.

You will also need a low table or tablecloth, and rugs or cushions, bread, grape juice and plastic tumblers.

Make a copy of the Find-a-word photocopiable (page 48) for each child.

See Gear in Session 8 (page 44).
But Jesus told the woman,
WHICH WAY?
Jesus loves you no matter who you are, where you are from or what you are like. All who trust in Him have eternal life.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Choice</th>
<th>Choice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sing a nursery rhyme</td>
<td>Say the 7x tables</td>
<td>Tell your leaders they are fantastic</td>
<td>Whistle a tune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choice</td>
<td>Choice</td>
<td>Choice</td>
<td>Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say a Memory verse</td>
<td>Tell about an embarrassing moment</td>
<td>Dance like a ballerina</td>
<td>Do the Chicken Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do five star jumps</td>
<td>Don’t talk for five minutes</td>
<td>Pretend to be swimming</td>
<td>Get a reward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sing the words from an advertising jingle</td>
<td>Get a reward</td>
<td>Make a funny face</td>
<td>Make an animal noise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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The purchaser of CLICK Unit 1 (8-11s) is entitled to photocopy this page for use with his or her group.
Renters of a Vineyard

9Jesus told the people this story:

A man once planted a vineyard and rented it out. Then he left the country for a long time. 10When it was time to harvest the crop, he sent a servant to ask the renters for his share of the grapes. But they beat up the servant and sent him away without anything. 11So the owner sent another servant. The renters also beat him up. They insulted him terribly and sent him away without a thing. 12The owner sent a third servant. He was also beaten terribly and thrown out of the vineyard.

13The owner then said to himself, “What am I going to do? I know what. I’ll send my son, the one I love so much. They will surely respect him!”

14When the renters saw the owner’s son, they said to one another, “Some day he will own the vineyard. Let’s kill him! Then we can have it all for ourselves.” 15So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

Jesus asked, “What do you think the owner of the vineyard will do? 16I’ll tell you what. He will come and kill those renters and let someone else have his vineyard.”

When the people heard this, they said, “This must never happen!”

17But Jesus looked straight at them and said, “Then what do the Scriptures mean when they say, ‘The stone that the builders tossed aside is now the most important stone of all’? 18Anyone who stumbles over this stone will get hurt, and anyone it falls on will be smashed to pieces.”

19The chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses knew that Jesus was talking about them when he was telling this story. They wanted to arrest him right then, but they were afraid of the people.

Luke 20 v 9–19 (CEV)