



**Date:** September 17th, 2023

**Title:** The Only Sign

**Scripture:** Luke 11:29-32

### **Introduction to Analog**

The word, Analog, means “something that is similar or comparable to something else.” Analog is designed to be a tangible way to take another deeper, look into each week’s Sunday morning message. Individuals, friends, small groups, and families can use Analog for further discussion and exploration of the Sunday teaching. May this tool help you explore the expansive heart of God and practice love in the ways of Jesus.

### **Teaching Season**

There are several stories that cause one to wonder exactly who Jesus is. While we may be quick to offer an answer, Luke does no such thing. Rather he tells several stories of parables, interactions and miracles all leading up to Jesus asking the question himself: “Who do you say I am?” And we are invited to respond.

### **Teaching**

We explored the dying and rising as a universal pattern in light of Jesus saying the only sign given would be the sign of Jonah. In early literature during and shortly after Jesus’ time, this sign pointed toward resurrection. Rather than looking for miracles, or divine apparitions, Jesus is heading into the belly of the earth. This sign that he gives is also one he invites us to imitate; this is the sign of Jesus. While we often miss this, it seems the “pagans” do not. This is why Jesus mentions the Queen of the South and the people of Nineveh. There is an incipient wisdom to this pattern that is seen in and through all things; the dying and the rising. Perhaps if we only had eyes to see, we would learn to see this mystery in and through all things.

Listen to the teaching [online](#) or on the DCC App

**Opening Question for the Group:** Start your group discussion with the question below.

- 1) Do you prefer salty or sweet treats? What’s your favorite go-to snack/treat within this category?

## **Questions for Discussion or Reflection**

Here are some questions for discussion or reflection. Don't feel like you have to cover them all, and you may have questions of your own to ask. The Spiritual Practice for this week could be very meaningful for you or your group, so plan on 10 minutes or so for this exercise. If you are using this in a group context, read through these questions and the Spiritual Practice before your group meets to familiarize yourself with this material. You may want to send this out to the group before you meet.

1. Share about a time where you felt you had to prove yourself, or your worth, to others.
2. What is so tempting about proving your worth to others?
3. Why do you think Jesus told people not to talk about his miracles?
4. Interact with this quote from Fr. Richard Rohr: "Faith is precisely no-thing. It is nothing we can prove in order to be right, or use to get anywhere else."
5. In what ways is this passage good news? In what ways is this passage bad news?

### **Spiritual Practice:**

This week for our formation practice, we invite you to listen to our guided time of prayer and reflection. You can listen to this guided prayer by clicking on the link below. You can also access the spiritual formation podcast through the DCC App.

[Spiritual Formation Podcast: Immanuel Journaling](#)