

Luke 12:35-48 Active Waiting

Image Church // The Gospel of Luke: Inverted Kingdom Wk. 19

Introduction

Well good morning Image Church and happy 4th of July!! So excited to be with you this morning and to open God's Word with you. I am also excited we are back here at East Cobb Middle School!!!

We have now doubled the amount of services held in this building than we did in 2020 which if you were with us in March 2020 this is a big deal

So we are thankful to have now met two weeks in row at East Cobb, which has never been done before so we are just breaking all kinds of records this morning!

If you don't know, **my name is Bryson Moon and I am the college pastor** here at Image Church, I have the incredible honor of leading our efforts to make disciples at Kennesaw State University, HOOTY HOO!! Go Owls...

For those who might not know, we were able to bring on our first college staff member back in January, **Nikki Yockus**... she is doing an incredible job! if you haven't had a chance to meet her yet, you will want to. To Nikki, strangers are just friends she hasn't met yet, so trust me when I say, she would love to meet you!

I do want to take a quick second this morning and just say **a special thank you to Pastor Aaron Turner**, Pastor Aaron is a driving force behind a lot we do here at Image Church...

We are here at ECMS because of the Lords provision and Pastor Aarons hard work, I can't even put into words how much I appreciate him and all he does for Image Church,

so thank you Pastor Aaron for faithfully loving and serving Image Church...

and thank you to his wife Laura for the sacrifices you make, Laura is also helping to lead our Image Kids and is doing an incredible job

And she probably hated every second I just talked about her, but Laura thank you for all you do!

I believe it is important to **give honor where honor is due** and I believe Pastor Aaron and Laura embody what it means to faithfully serve the body of Christ! So thank you!

Before we jump in the morning... will you join me in praying... asking that God would reveal himself to us this morning!

Well this morning we continue in our journey through the book of Luke, in our series "**Inverted Kingdom**" where we are examining the life and ministry of Jesus and how it applies to our lives.

Where we are looking at who Jesus is, what he has done, how he lived and the implications that it has for our lives.

We are seeing in a very clear way, not only the hope we have in the gospel, in the saving work of Jesus, **but also as those who have been redeemed, we are now called to live in light of the gospel...**

That even though this earth is not our ultimate home, while we are here we are called to live in a certain way, and I think the reality of this is very clear in our text this morning...

So if you have your Bible's please go ahead and turn to **Luke 12** and as you are turning there I want to highlight a couple things from Pastor Mike's sermon last week

Which was so good and a timely word so If you missed it, go back and check that out

But as we dive into our text this morning, **we need to keep the truth of this passage in mind...** So here Jesus tells us not to worry or be anxious... who can add to their lives by worrying.

That God is our provider, that he cares for the birds of the air and all living things, how much more will he care for us

But how do we live without worry or anxiety???

When our trust is in the right place, and when we treasure the right thing, it will lead us to a life that is free from worry and anxiety”¹

Jesus tells us to seek first the kingdom and all these things will be added to you. Meaning, when we seek the kingdom of God, when our lives are about the mission of God, when we are living out the purpose God has given us, we don't have to worry about them because **“they are not the essence of life, they are just simply elements of life.”²**

So what we have to realize is that **“our hearts will move toward what we cherish”³**

So our passage this morning come directly behind Jesus teaching here... so we have to know, and be aware, and ask ourselves this question **“what is the treasure that you seek?”** This requires self-evaluation on our part - to examine our hearts constantly

To constantly reorient our hearts around who Jesus is and what he has done, and to be intentional about how we respond in light of the gospel.

Jesus gives us incredible encouragement and assurance here, and next he gives a charge but also a strong warning...

Luke 12:35

35 “Stay dressed for action[a] and keep your lamps burning,

Ok, so we have to understand the picture Jesus is painting and I think Pastor JD Greear sums it up really well. *He says, “[this is a picture] Jesus uses to communicate a posture readiness.*

Stay dressed for action (At least, that’s what it is in English. Unfortunately, our English translations don’t translate the Greek literally here, because what Jesus says is so much more colorful in Greek. The Greek reads literally, “keep your loins girded.”

¹ Mike McKee “A Worry-free Life”

² Mike McKee “A Worry-free Life”

³ Mike McKee “A Worry-free Life”

In those days men wore robes, which of course were comfortable and stylish and breezy but not at all ideal if you were going to work, run, or fight.

So for those occasions men would put on these belts that would tighten things up down there so that they were ready for action. Jesus said, “Let that be a metaphor for how you live.” Don’t live in a posture of leisure; stay in fight mode.”⁴

IOW, what Jesus is describing here is a very intentional, and serious active waiting.

He continues in vs 36

36 and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. 37 Blessed are those servants[a] whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at the table, and he will come and serve them. 38 If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!

Here Jesus paints another picture to better help us understand... We are to be like servants who are **waiting** and who **anticipate** their masters return from a wedding feast.

See in those days weddings could **last days or even an entire week**, and so the servants would have no idea when the master would return, but they would have been instructed to keep things ready upon my return⁵.

So the master's servants would be **“actively waiting” and anticipating** their master's return so that they were ready for him! Jesus says that this is how we should live, **always ready.**

Jesus calls those who he finds awake or ready, Blessed! And it says that the servants will be served. How incredible is that. Blessed are those who remain awake!

⁴ [“JD Greear “Live Ready” from In Step Series](#)

⁵ Bock, D. L. (1996). [Luke: 9:51–24:53](#) (Vol. 2, p. 1183). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

39 But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he[c] would not have left his house to be broken into. 40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Thieves don't call ahead, they don't send out announcements, "Hey just a heads up gonna be in your area the weekend of July 4th, thought you would like to know"⁶

The **element of surprise** is the key component of being a thief, this is of course speculation as I have not myself engaged in thievery although as a real small kid I did steal a thing of tic tacs one time (orange to be exact) because it taste like candy. I **don't recommend as they make a loud noise** in your pocket as you walk, you will in fact get caught, trust me!

But if you knew a thief was coming, would you not stay up all night, ready and on guard??? Of course you would!⁷

What Jesus is saying, is this is how you should wait for my return, **for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect!**

This is important for us to catch... constantly through this passage is this idea of being awake, the thief coming at an hour you don't expect, the master coming and finding his servants awake and ready...

The middle of the night is when you are least likely to find someone awake and ready... **but Jesus says, stay awake, be alert, be ready!!!**

Around my house, when either my wife or I ask the other are you ready to leave our response to each other **"if you stay ready, you aint gotta get ready"**

Now practically speaking it means I am usually standing at the door ready to walk out and she is still putting her makeup on and she still has to get dressed but she says she is ready... but I digress

⁶ Idea taken from ["JD Greear "Live Ready" from In Step Series](#)

⁷ Ibid

But This is what we have to see here: **ACTIVE WAITING**

Active waiting is the expectation that Jesus has for his servants! Active waiting is the expectation and charge that Jesus has for us!

Listen! We know that Jesus has promised to return, that the Son of Man is coming again

John 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

We know the return of Christ is inevitable, the Scriptures have promised this, we know this, but do we believe it. **If we believed it then we would live as though it is true!**

We do this with many other things in our life... we believe something is true and so our life reflects it...

Like when **one of our members here at Image, Fred Odom**, starts going on about Lebron James being the GOAT... I pull out my phone and open my note titled "MJ is the GOAT" and just start reading... because something I know to be true is Michael Jordan is the GOAT!

Now I know this is a ridiculous example... I share it partly because it is something I believe to be true, so I live ready to make my case at a moment's notice... but also because I like to take every opportunity to remind you who the GOAT is!

Or how about this one,... your career... doing whatever it takes to get where you want to be at the expense of other people or things in your life.... hear me clearly... success at your job is not a problem, the elevation of success to a place it doesn't belong is the problem.

What about working all the time?? Maybe it isnt success that drives you but providing some sort of lifestyle?? In my life I have fallen victim to this one...

Back when my wife Princess and I were still dating... we were headed towards engagement, I didn't make much money and so I thought I have to be a provider right??

So I was working 3 jobs, 7 days a week, 60+ hours a week and I didn't see anything wrong with it... until a very dear brother called me on it.

He said to me, **"You believe you have to work this much to provide for your future because you don't believe that God is actually your provider!!!"**

He was right, I wasn't believing that!!!

In either case it goes back to **where your treasure is there your heart will be also...** Jesus tells us to store up for yourselves treasure in heaven not here on earth...

We are to set our eyes to heaven... we are waiting for the Lords return!!

But please hear me... **We wait with joyous anticipation for the Lord's return, BUT we do NOT do so sitting idly by.**

We are to be active in our waiting... Yes we are waiting for the Lords, return, and we are excited for the Lord's return, and we can't wait to be with him forever and ever

As we should be! Jesus says be ready - but what is clear is that in our waiting we are to be active about the things of the Kingdom, **we are to be about Kingdom living...**

Jesus has given us very clear instructions on the things we are to be about, how we should live our lives, what we should give our lives to...

It should be all for the glory of God and the kingdom of God... we are not building our own kingdom... **we are called to pour out our lives for the sake of the gospel!**

We do so with heaven in sight, with what awaits us in glory, we live our lives in the here and now looking at what's to come, but active in kingdom living while we wait!

Well what does it mean to be about the kingdom... its to be about the masters task... to carry out the mandate that all Christians everywhere have...

Its Matthew 28 "to go and make disciples of all nations"

Its Acts 1:8 "to be his witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth"

Its Mark 12:31 "love your neighbor as yourself"

Its Matthew 20:28 "to serve rather than be served"

Its 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 "give generously"

James 2 "care for the poor"

I could go on and on... if we open our Bibles we see all over Scripture what it means and what it looks like to be about kingdom living, **what it is that we are to be active doing**

In our waiting and in our longing to be with Jesus, we are busy about the things that God has called us to! **And we do this because of what God has called us out of...**

It is our gospel response, to lay down our lives and we should do so with great joy... we count it all joy to lay down our lives for the sake of the gospel.

Family, Jesus is coming, and what awaits those you believe is glorious, and wonderful, and it will be incredible but right here and right now we must be active in our waiting.

As one pastor says, "It is only by thinking clearly about the future will you live wisely in the present."⁸

When we look to what awaits us for eternity we gladly labor for the kingdom in this life, because we have a clear view of the future!

So in response to all of this... Peter asks a really important question. Vs41

⁸ ["JD Greear "Live Ready" from In Step Series](#)

41 Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?”

That's a good question, Lord please tell us who this is for? And Jesus does what he often does, he answers his question through parable

This is how Jesus responds...

42 And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? **43** Blessed is that servant [d] whom his master will find so doing when he comes. **44** Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions.

The **faithful and wise manager (or steward)**, the one who is faithful with what has been entrusted will then be set over the whole household... the **faithful steward** is then entrusted with more and they are called, blessed!

Jesus here describes the faithful one... let's continue reading. Pay attention here because Jesus uses some very strong language in these next few verses.

45 But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, **46** the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful. **47** And that servant who knew his master's will but did not get ready or act according to his will, will receive a severe beating. **48** But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating.

WOW! So Jesus has described the faithful servant and now he turns and addresses the unfaithful servant.

The unfaithful servant knowingly and willingly squanders what has been entrusted to him and abuses his position. The unfaithful has no idea when the master will return and thinks to himself I have time, and I am going to use the time and the resources at my disposal for my pleasure

However the master returns and finds the servant living this way, the language used is harsh - this is what the scripture says - will be cut into pieces and put with the unfaithful

In Matthew's account - it says he will be placed where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth - so this unfaithful servant will receive as that of an unbeliever... this servant did not steward well.. in fact he squandered it all and is cast out and put with the unfaithful

We also see Jesus address one who knew but just didn't do what they were supposed to do and one who didn't know

You might hear this and think, “**That's not me! I am not beating my servants, I don't have any servants!!**”

What is important for us to take away here is we are called to be

faithful stewards! this is for all of us!!!

We see this picture of faithfulness vs unfaithfulness

We see very clearly that we are called to live ready, we are called to **active waiting**, to be **faithful stewards**, to be about the kingdom of God, to be good stewards.

And finishing out our text this morning, the rest of vs 48

48b Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.

So we read this passage, and we think ok great what now???? I know am suppose to stay ready for Jesus' return and to be a faithful steward??

I want to spend the remainder of my time this morning unpacking what does all of this mean practically?

How should we go about doing this?

Because what is clear, for those that have put their faith in Christ we are clearly called to something.... **there is a response necessary for us**

And I think that the best way to unpack this and to understand what this means for us, I think what it means to actively wait and to be a faithful steward

is to be disciples, we are called to be about the business of **being a disciple who makes disciples!**

So let me flesh this out... I think the way we define a disciple helps us to clearly understand what it means to be active in our waiting and to be among the faithful!

So here at Image Church we define a disciple who is growing in these areas, this is what it means to be a healthy disciple...

A healthy disciple is someone who is growing as

- **Worshiper**
- **Family Member**
- **Steward**
- **Missionary**

A. Worshiper

A worshiper is someone who is growing in their love for God through right beliefs, affections, practices.

To be a worshiper is to be someone who is in pursuit of knowing Jesus - like you understand who he is, the life he came and lived, the gruesome death that he died for our sin, and you believe that Christ rose from the grave 3 days later

You believe this, and that belief has led to life change - I mean like you really believe the gospel and it changed everything

And because of this, you are growing in your love for God, overwhelmed by God's goodness and faithfulness, and so you fight to believe the gospel daily, **you know your identity rest in Christ alone**, and you are responding to the gospel daily to live your life for the glory of God...

You are striving to grow as a worshiper every single day, Christ is everything to you, man when you think about the beauty of the Lord it just over takes you because you recognize who he is.

There is just this unspeakable joy, just at the mention of His name you just want to shout that **1 Peter 2:3 "you have tasted that the Lord is good"**

And that you are committed to continuing to grow in your knowledge of who God is what he has done, which continues to produce love for God in you!

A healthy disciple is also someone who is growing as

B. Family Member

A family member is someone who is gathering regularly with the family of God corporately, and communally throughout the week for the purpose of growing in personal holiness, love for one another and mission.

When you become a Christian, you become part of the family of God...

When you trust in Jesus, you become a son or daughter of God, which means that we become brothers and sisters... So, ***the church isn't like a family, the church is a family...***

Which means that your role as a disciple- as a Jesus follower- is to be a faithful family member, and here at Image Church we would say that means

- committed to one another
- committed to the Sunday Gathering
- committed to Community Group

A family member is committed to being apart of the family, being with the family often, loving and serving the family

Its not only a part of what it means to be a disciple but also it is necessary, we need this, we need the family! ***Growing in Christ is a group project!*** We have to have each other...⁹

A healthy disciple is also someone who is growing as

C. Steward

*Being a steward is **Leveraging your time, talent and treasure through service, hospitality, and generosity for the sake of the church family and your neighbor.***

Matthew 25 tells us We're not owners of what we've been given, we're stewards, and we're to steward the time, talent and treasure God's given us for His glory!

A disciple is growing in their **stewardship** of their **time, talent** and **treasure** that God's given you... Understanding that God gave you what you have to leverage for Him!

Are we faithfully stewarding what God has given???

A healthy disciple is also someone who is growing as

D. Missionary

*A missionary is **Living as an ambassador of Christ by engaging the lost with the gospel in order to show what it means to know, love and follow Jesus.***

We have been given a task, a mandate by Jesus to be disciples who make disciples of all nations, to be his witnesses in the world, his ambassadors.

Regardless of your vocation, no matter what season of life you are in, we are called to be missionaries in this world. **This is not optional for the Christian.**

For the Christian, **we must be about the mission of God**, it is the only right response, it is for all of life to be about the mission.

God has placed all of us in different spheres of influence and we are there for a reason

So This is how we define a disciple

- Worshiper
- Family Member
- Steward
- Missionary

What we see in our passage this morning, is actively waiting on the Lords Return and being faithful stewards

You might still be asking yourself this morning, what does being a disciple have to do with waiting for Jesus to return, well I believe it is **summed up in the word stewardship**

See if God is who the Scriptures tell us He is...

- if he is creator of all things
- the Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end
- If he is sovereign, and all knowing and all powerful
- If he is the one holding the universe together

If God is God, then your life is not your own... all that you have, all that you will ever have, every dollar, down to the last cent. Your car, your home, your job, your relationships, your kids, your time, your talent, your treasure, your health

All of it!!! Every last bit of it! It is not yours!!! It came from Him and it belongs to him!

The things you love, the things you have, the things you are working to get

⁹ Thoughts and wording taken from Mike McKee "Being a Disciple"

To have anything, is a good gift from God, **it is his kindness to you.** If you are sitting in this room this morning, God has been good to you, he poured out his kindness on you because you have breath in your lungs.

And because God is God, and if you have put your faith and hope in the finished work of Jesus then there is an expectation for our lives... **There is a mandate on our lives!**

To go and make disciples of all nations! And there are only two options when it comes to this mandate... you either go! Or you send! We either pack your bags and go or we stay and generously send!

But staying and saying, “Well I can’t go so I will send” **does not excuse us from the mission of God where we are at.** We are busy about the kingdom of God,

Our natural tendency is to do the bare minimum we want to be able to say, yep I’m doing that and check it off

but there is a reason that the christian life is often described as pouring out your life, Christ is calling us to pour out our life for the sake of the gospel, while many are simply satisfied with dribbling it out a little here and there

NO! We are missing it, we pour our lives out for the kingdom of God... why because eternity is in sight... I can see it, can you see it

Eternity with our creator and king is just over the horizon... its close and its coming!!! Even if that is 100 years from now for you, for me it is oh so close, this life is nothing but a blip on the radar compared to eternity

And I pray that I don’t arrive there only having dribbled a little bit of my life out, **I want to walk into eternity exhausted, all out of gas with nothing left to give**

And look my Savior in the face and hear “**well done my good and faithful servant**” that I as Paul, I finished my race and I finished well

We have been giving one life to live... one that is it!

We are called to steward and not squander it! To be a disciple is leverage our lives.

it means to be a steward of the things that God has given us

to leverage our time

- growing as a disciple
- being a committed family member
- loving our neighbors
- serving the body

The time you have will ebb and flow as the seasons change!

So when you are in college or just out of college, and maybe not married... you have more time than you will ever have in your life in that season!!

When you get married, you lose a some time, when you have a kid and then several, **you lose more time and in each new season,** you have less ability than before but then something happens

Your kids go off to college and you start finding more time... you retire, kids are grown now and its just you and your wife again

In each of season of life the amount of time you have may change, at times you might have more than others **but no where along the way are you or I excused from being good stewards of our time!**

When you are young or single, leverage your time, when you have a family, prioritize time with them **but also know, your kids seeing you live on mission and being on mission together is just as important as having quality time together,** and down the road when the kids are grown and your retired, leverage your retirement

because there is no such thing as retirement in the kingdom of God - retirement means you are standing face to face with Jesus!

Leverage our talent

- how has God gifted and wired each of us?
- how can we use that for the kingdom, for the body of Christ

Each of us have been given talents by God, things we are passionate about, how do we use them for the glory of God?? How do we serve the body of Christ, how do we serve at the Sunday Gathering??

Our treasure

- Am I living and giving generously, leveraging my treasure for the building of the kingdom

We all have treasure, some more than others - **at the end of the day it isn't about a dollar amount but whether or not our lives are marked by generosity...**

That we believe God is in fact our provider and so we feel no reason to hoard money... but we gladly and joyfully give to the mission of God!

Conclusion ****Vamp****

We are called to steward well the life that we have been given...

- it is not my own, I have been bought with a price
- We look at the things that we have, that we own, the money we earned at our jobs and our flesh says its mine!!!¹⁰
- We see our time, and we think I will use this how I see fit, doing the things I want to do!

But all that we have, has been entrusted to us to manage... we are not owners. We are stewards!!!

Owners determine how everything is done and used... stewards wisely manage that which has been entrusted to them!

Remember the last part of vs **48**

Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.

Church family, sit with this... you must wrestle with this...

Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.

At the end of the day, it is **faithfulness vs unfaithfulness...** to actively wait for the Lords return and to be a faithful steward is to live as a disciple

A disciple who is focused on the kingdom living, being about the kingdom of God!

Story

Yall are all familiar with social media, it is notorious for people posting fake pictures of themselves or trying to make their lives look way better than they are...

There is one I saw recently where a guy post a picture of himself at the beach and has some hashtag like **#soakingupthesun #beachbum** but then you see his sister replies to his photo

with her own photo... turns out **#beachbum** is actually in his backyard and just poured some sand in the grass and tried to make it look like he was at the beach...

That pretty much sums up a lot on social media... **giving a snapshot of our best moment or giving the appearance of something that isn't actually even always true!**

Some give the appearance of disciple... attend church, maybe make it to community group some, you serve occasionally and maybe give a little

Here's the thing though... when we talk about leveraging our lives for the sake of the gospel...

Leveraging means to use (something) to maximum advantage. We are called to leverage our lives... leverage our time, talent and treasure and to leverage those things

¹⁰ ["JD Greear "Live Ready" from In Step Series](#)

leverage means to use them to maximum advantage, **some of you are using sparingly what God has called you to pour out!**

To actively wait for the Lords return and to be a good steward is to be a disciple

To be a disciple is to leverage all of life for the sake of the gospel and for the kingdom of God

Family, **the Lords return is imminent**, and oh what a beautiful moment that will be, get excited! But when he returns, will he find us active about his mission, will he find us being good stewards of what he gave us???

Don't sit idly by because Christ Jesus has given his life for us, he who knew no sin, became sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God!

Family you must believe that Christ is worth it, Jesus must be the treasure that you seek!

Family I pray... **Ephesians 3 would be true of us**

Ephesians 3

18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God's love, 19 and to know Christ's love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

That we would believe Romans 8

38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

That we would believe this, and out of this belief would we leverage our lives for the glory of God.

We wait with joyous anticipation for the Lord's return, BUT we do NOT do so sitting idly by.

We are active disciples, about kingdom living, faithfully stewarding our lives for Gods glory and for his mission!

*****Lets Pray*****

Need to create the 2nd point Faithful Steward - it is now done

Lay out each of the 4 on what it means to be a disciple - define them each and expound on each of them - as done for worshiper (reference Mikes sermon from legacy

From their tie a bow on it....
what does it mean to be actively waiting for Christ return - it means to be a disciple who makes disciples - flesh that out

it means to be a steward of the things that God has given us

- to leverage our time
 - growing as a disciple
 - being a committed family member
 - loving our neighbors
 - serving the body
 - etc

Our talent

- how has God gifted and wired me
- how can I use that for the kingdom, for the body of Christ

Our treasure

- I live and give generously, leverage my treasure for the building of the kingdom

We are called to steward well the life that we have been given...

- it is not my own, I have been bought with a price
- We look at the things that we have, that we own, the money we earned at our jobs and our flesh says its mine!!!¹¹

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And look my Savior in the face and hear "well done my good and faithful servant" that I as Paul, I finished my race and I finished well

¹¹ ["JD Greear "Live Ready" from In Step Series](#)

It is only by thinking clearly about the future will you live wisely in the present. “JD Greear “Live Ready” from In Step Series

“This is the first of 4 images Jesus uses to communicate a posture of readiness. If you’re taking notes, write down: (1) Stay dressed for action (At least, that’s what it is in English. Unfortunately, our English translations don’t translate the Greek literally here, because what Jesus says is so much more colorful in Greek. The Greek reads literally, “keep your loins girded.” In those days men wore robes, which of course were comfortable and stylish and breezy but not at ideal if you were going to work, run, or fight. So for those occasions men would put on these belts that would tighten things up down there so that they were ready for action. Jesus said, “Let that be a metaphor for how you live.”

Don’t live in a posture of leisure; stay in fight mode.”

“JD Greear “Live Ready” from In Step Series

The point for both writers is the same: the totally unfaithful slave is rejected by the master for being an utterly irresponsible steward. Given the setting, it would seem that false teaching and a double life are the points of the allusion, since the essence of a leader’s stewardship is found in the teaching and guiding role

Bock, D. L. (1996). [Luke: 9:51–24:53](#) (Vol. 2, p. 1183). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father **15** from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. **16** I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit, **17** and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love, **18** may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God’s love, **19** and to know Christ’s love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. **20** Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think

according to the power that works in us — 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Romans 8:31-39

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be [] against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. [] 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Because I am setting my eyes on the eternal, I live a certain way, in light of that

Facebook story about Instagram- I think Erin Blackwell posted it

- the idea of looking the part, giving the appearance of vs the reality of actual faithfulness

How goes mikes sermon today connect: the treasure we seek???

We wait with joyous expectation for the Lords return but we do not do so sitting idle by

Idea of living for today - living for the moment - rather than eternity in view

I read a story the other day someone posted on social media... and it has stuck with me...

It tells about two different parents... one takes their kid to the pool but stays on the phone most the time other than just enough time to pose for the perfect picture - spends the entire time on the phone ignoring their daughter all the while the daughter just wanting for them to play with her.

the story teller imagines the photos being perfectly edited and posted to social media with a caption like "Pool time with my baby! [#Makingmemories](#)".

While another parent is at home, in the mess of raising kids, actively engaging their children

The whole point of the story was “ don't compare yourselves” and we shouldn't... most of social media is fake and lie anyway!!

But what I walked away and kept thinking about, is how this perfectly staged photo gives the appearance of engaging your child versus the actual difficulty and messy work of engaging your **kids**.