

1. Intro

- Last time, Jesus just finished instructing His 12 disciples not to worry about clothes and food; rather, they were to be busy seeking the Kingdom of God above all else, and God would provide everything they would need.
- Today, Jesus continues talking to His 12 disciples and uses multiple illustrations, further emphasizing that they should be actively seeking the Kingdom of God every day and should be faithfully engaged and “on mission” in the work He has instructed them to do until He returns.

2. Text: Luke 12:35-59

Luke 12:35-40

35 “Be dressed for service and keep your lamps burning, **36** as though you were waiting for your master to return from the wedding feast. Then you will be ready to open the door and let him in the moment he arrives and knocks. **37** The servants who are ready and waiting for his return will be rewarded. I tell you the truth, he himself will seat them, put on an apron, and serve them as they sit and eat! **38** He may come in the middle of the night or just before dawn. But whenever he comes, he will reward the servants who are ready.

39 “Understand this: If a homeowner knew exactly when a burglar was coming, he would not permit his house to be broken into. **40** You also must be ready all the time, for the Son of Man will come when least expected.”

- Live each day on mission, faithfully and vigilantly carrying out the Lord’s instructions until He returns or we go to Him.
- Live with a focus and urgency like Charlie Kirk and the Apostle Paul did!
- **Acts 20:24** “But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.”

Luke 12:41-48

41 Peter asked, “Lord, is that illustration just for us or for everyone?”

42 And the Lord replied, “A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. **43** If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a **reward**. **44** I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns. **45** But what if the servant thinks, ‘My master won’t be back for a while,’ and he begins beating the other servants, partying, and getting drunk? **46** The master will return unannounced and unexpected, and he will cut the servant in pieces and banish him with the unfaithful.

47 “And a servant who knows what the master wants, but isn’t prepared and doesn’t carry out those instructions, will be severely punished. **48** But someone who does not know, and then does something wrong, will be punished only lightly. When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required.”

- A faithful servant living on mission will be given more responsibility in God’s kingdom.
- An unfaithful servant will experience God’s discipline and loss of rewards.
- **2 Corinthians 5:10** “**10** For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.”

- **1 Corinthians 3:10-15** “**10** Because of God’s grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. **11** For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ. **12** Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. **13** But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person’s work has any value. **14** If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward. **15** But if the work is burned up, the builder will suffer great loss. The builder will be saved, but like someone barely escaping through a wall of flames.”

Luke 12:49-53

“**49** ‘I have come to set the world on fire, and I wish it were already burning!’ **50** I have a terrible baptism of suffering ahead of me, and I am under a heavy burden until it is accomplished. **51** Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I have come to divide people against each other! **52** From now on families will be split apart, three in favor of me, and two against—or two in favor and three against. **53** ‘Father will be divided against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’”

- “Set the world on fire”: reference to burning and replacing this fallen, sin-cursed world.
- “Baptism of suffering ahead of me”: Jesus will be “placed into” horrible suffering at the cross.
- “I have come to divide people against each other”: Division will happen between people and families because some will follow Jesus and some will not.

Luke 12:54-59

“**54** Then Jesus turned to the crowd and said, ‘When you see clouds beginning to form in the west, you say, ‘Here comes a shower.’ And you are right. **55** When the south wind blows, you say, ‘Today will be a scorcher.’ And it is. **56** You fools! You know how to interpret the weather signs of the earth and sky, but you don’t know how to interpret the present times.

57 ‘Why can’t you decide for yourselves what is right?’ **58** When you are on the way to court with your accuser, try to settle the matter before you get there. Otherwise, your accuser may drag you before the judge, who will hand you over to an officer, who will throw you into prison. **59** And if that happens, you won’t be free again until you have paid the very last penny.’”

- Jesus warned the unbelieving crowd to **recognize** who He was and believe in Him before it’s too late and they face God’s **judgment**.

3. Application

- Are you living on mission for Jesus and for His kingdom? Did that thought even cross your minds this past week? If not, are you okay with that?
- “Let us not glide through this world and then slip quietly into heaven, without having blown the trumpet loud and long for our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Let us see to it that the devil will hold a thanksgiving service in hell, when he gets the news of our departure from the field of battle.” - CT Studd