

Following Jesus - The Life of a Disciple - Part 30

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Lesson 30 - Hypocrisy, Covetousness, Watchfulness, Faithfulness; Jesus' Coming

Background:

This lesson focuses mostly on Luke 12 and the focus is on Jesus providing instructions to His disciples. Dwight Pentecost states, "Even though the conflict with the Pharisees

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was raging, interest in Jesus ran high." We can note that thousands were coming to see Jesus and here His teachings. His popularity further angered the religious leaders.

Scripture Passage:

Read: [Luke 12:1-53](#)

Read the Following Quote:

"Our Lord's disciples may not have realized it, but they were in great danger. For one thing, they were surrounded by immense crowds of people whose major concern was not to hear spiritual truth but to see Jesus do a miracle or meet some personal need. At the same time, the scribes and Pharisees were plotting against Jesus and trying to get Him out of the way. The snare of Popularity and the fear of man brought ruin to more than one servant of God."

[Warren Wiersbe – Be Compassionate](#)

Question:

Why were the disciples in great danger? What can bring a servant of God to ruin?

Scripture Passage:

Now answer the questions based on [Luke 12:1-53](#)

Warnings and Encouragements for the Disciples

1. Jesus warned the disciples of the dangers of hypocrisy. Define hypocrisy. Where have you seen hypocrisy? Have you ever been guilty of this sin?

2. What does God think of sparrows? How are we like sparrows? What is the difference between someone who acknowledges Jesus and someone who disowns Him?

3. Who will guide us in our answers when we need to defend ourselves from verbal attacks? (verses 11-12)

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A Parable About a Rich Fool [Luke 12:1-53](#)

4. Who initiates or the discussion about greed? What is he upset about? How does Jesus respond? (verses 13-15)

5. Tell the story of the rich fool in your own words. Describe what a rich fool might be like in your own culture today. What happens to the rich fool?

Do Not Worry About the Future, Read [Luke 12:1-53](#)

6. The rich fool worried because he had too much and not enough space to store his goods. What does Jesus say about worrying to the disciples?

7. Rather than seeking worldly goods, what does the Lord say we should seek? What do you think this means? (verses 27-34)

8. What should we treasure, and how does this relate to our heart?

9. To what extent should we be prepared to help the poor? How can I know how much to give and to whom?

Be Watchful, Read [Luke 12:1-53](#)

10. What or who should we be watchful for? How will we know when the Son of Man is coming? (verses 35-40)

11. How can we be ready for the Lord? What should we do? Do you think the Lord is coming soon? How can we know?

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12. Explain the story of the master and servant. How does this story relate to us today? (compare [Matthew 12:38](#) and [Mark 8:11](#))

13. How do you think we might be given more if we are faithful? What happens if we are not faithful?

The Sign of Jonah, Read [Luke 12:1-53](#)

14. Answer the following statements True or False based on this final section focused on verses 49-53.

- a. Jesus brings water to put out fires.
- b. Jesus brings division.
- c. Families will not be divided by Jesus.

Discuss:

How can we prevent hypocrisy in our lives? Is saving money and possessions for the future a good or bad thing? How would you live your life if you knew that Jesus was coming today? How is this different from how you usually live your life? Do we live in a world with masters and servants today? How does this parable relate to us today?

Suggested Prayer: *Dear Lord, help us not to be worried about our daily needs. Help us instead to be kind, compassionate and generous with what we have. Lord teach us what it means to be ready for your coming. Strengthen us when we face those who are against us. Give us the words we need and the boldness to speak when it is appropriate to do so. Help us to be peacemakers that bring unity to our families while understanding that we may need to take a stand at times, even against those we love deeply. May your kingdom be our daily focus, in Jesus name we pray, Amen.*

For Further Reading:

[7 Ways to Prepare for Jesus' Return](#)

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