

Spending Time with Jesus in Luke 12

Don't forget to invite Jesus to speak to you as you read this week.

First read through: Read Chapter 12 all the way through, imagining you are there.

Second read through: Look for themes and underline them in the color on your key.

What do you notice?

1)

2)

3)

Third read through: Answer questions as you go.

Luke 12:1-11

To understand this part, we need to see a pattern. Go back and read Jesus and the Pharisees' interactions. What are the Pharisees doing in each of these verses?

5:17 _____

5:21 _____

5:30 _____

6:2 _____

6:7 _____

6:11 _____

What pattern do you notice? _____

What have they rejected? (see 7:30) _____

Jesus warns them over and over with “Woe to you” in 11:37-52. Do you think they listened? _

Paul says in I Corinthians 5 that “a little yeast leavens a whole batch of dough.” What do you think Jesus means by the yeast of the Pharisees? What or who are they affecting? (see 11:14-16)

In 12:1-11, Jesus warns and encourages his followers about 2 scenerios:

- 1) When the Pharisees (or others who oppose Jesus) persecute them

How is Jesus encouraging them...and us...about this scenario?

- 2) When we are tempted to stay silent or to deny Jesus

What is the warning here?

Luke 12:13-34

The parable of the rich fool and “consider the ravens and the wild flowers” go together.

In vs 15, Jesus tells his disciples to watch out for _____.

What is the rich man focused on?

What is his solution?

Luke wants us to literally “consider the ravens”...not just birds (like Matthew wrote.) Ahhh... it’s a clue. Do remember a story with ravens in the Old Testament? _____

In Israel, ravens lived in the wilderness, a place of desolation and uncertainty. Ever feel like you are in circumstances like that? And yet, they are also associated with God’s provision and care. (Gen 8:7, I Kings 17:4-6)

The Jews knew that ravens are more than just birds that aren't worried about food. They could remember stories of how God used them to show how He was providing for His people.

Jesus says, "do not _____ on what you will eat or drink" (vs 29)
What does that phrase you filled in mean?

Vs. 30 says that the pagan world (those in the world who don't believe in the one true God)
_____ these things.

Luke is wanting us stop and remember what doing that feels like. Imagine you spent a lot of energy making plans and then doing whatever it took to get something, and then you found out your mom had it in her purse for you the whole time? She was just waiting for you to stand still long enough to give it to you. How would you feel?

In vs 32, Jesus uses 3 word pictures. What kind of relationship:

- 1) does a shepherd have with his flock? _____
- 2) does a perfect Father have with his children? _____
- 3) does a subject have with a king who gives him a kingdom? _____

Take time to ask Jesus which you are more like, the rich fool or the ravens/wild flowers. As you pray, what part of your life comes to mind? _____

Do you actually trust God to provide for you here? In His timing? In His way?

Is your treasure, your heart's desire, letting God actually act as king in your circumstances?

God is looking for anyone who will let Him show Himself strong in their life.

Luke 12:35-48

"Be dressed ready...door...food...even in the middle of the night..." Ah...another clue from Luke. Do you remember a story where God told his people to stay up all night, dressed and ready, eating, waiting on Him...and something special about their doors? _____

In vs 35-37, which servants are served by the master? _____

During Jesus' 1st coming, what does He do? Is this like vs 37b?

What can we infer about the servants who weren't ready for their master's return?

Think of the first Passover. What happened to those who weren't ready?

To answer Peter's question, Jesus keeps going with his parable. Jesus' disciples are like the master's manager who awaits his return. In other words, the master expects this trusted servant to do for the other servants exactly what the master would if he were there. Who is this servant/manager supposed to please? _____

Does the master have the right to demand much from his servants? (Remember, in that culture, a good master cared for ALL his servants' needs and always treated them fairly.) Why?

For the servants who are ready, the master's return is a time of unbelievable rejoicing (being served by the master himself? What?!!) For the servants who are not ready, the master's return means _____.

Luke 12:49-59

Jesus draws a line in the sand. Family provided one's financial security, one's place in society, one's legal rights, everything that mattered. Yet Jesus says, those who follow him will have to be willing to divide from these relationships and the security they offer. Either we are loyal to him above everyone else, or we aren't loyal to him at all. Who are you ultimately loyal to?

Judgment is coming. Jesus is stunned that they can't see that. Jesus has been teaching and performing Messiah-only signs, and they have rejected him. He's again trying to get their attention by calling them _____ and pleading with them to look at the signs.

What if someone made God their adversary? What should they do? (vv 57-59)

Which one word or phrase best sums up what Jesus is saying throughout ch 12? Why?

Be generous

Trust your heavenly Father

What Jesus wants us to watch out for

Nothing else is more important than Jesus