

ULC Sermon Study Resource
The Gospel of Luke // Jesus Warns
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July 4th, 2021

Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: How did you celebrate Independence Day this year?

Reading: Luke 12:35-59

Outline:

- I. Pay attention to your life (v. 35-47)
 - a. Jesus says that the one who is ready to serve the Master when he arrives will actually be served by the Master. We are to stay awake and live attentively.
 - b. Jesus wants all of His followers to remain faithful, and he warns against the sin of carelessness. Those who understand his will, yet fail to do it will be judged harshly.
Q: Why was the servant in v. 45 punished?
- II. Pay attention to your priorities (v. 49-53)
 - a. The Gospel reorients our priorities, and it can change aspects of life that seem indivisible, including familial relationships.
 - b. We often fear what we will lose if we follow Jesus, but there is nothing we could lose for the sake of the Gospel that will not be restored to us and more.
Q: Why did Jesus use familial relationships to describe divisions He would cause?
- III. Pay attention to your circumstances (v. 54-59)
 - a. Jesus's analogies show that we need to pay attention to what is happening right now.
 - b. Although some habits may not be inherently sinful, they take our time and offer nothing.
Q: What two analogies does Jesus use here to demonstrate this point?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) Do you feel that you are the servant prepared for the Master? Why or why not?
- 2) What are the dangers of carelessness? Can you think of examples of common habits that are rooted in carelessness?
- 3) Has the Gospel message caused any relational divisions in your life? How did you handle this?
- 4) Can you think of examples of bad habits that many people today have that aren't inherently sinful? Why do you think holding these habits is a bad thing?
- 5) Do you have any habits that 'lull you to sleep'? Do you want to change this going forward?

Suggestions for further study:

- Isaiah 1:11-15 **Q: How does God react to the Israelites' tolerance of false idols?**
- Titus 2:11-14 **Q: How do these verses say we should live while waiting for Jesus?**
- Matthew 24:42-44 **Q: How does this passage echo what we read today about being ready?**

Closing Prayer: Gracious God, your Son Jesus has come. He has come to awaken us from the sleep of foolish, careless living, so that we might live for you as your witnesses. Father, we pray that the power of your spirit would rest on us, that it would strengthen and embolden us to live as your people. We pray that we would reflect the love and goodness that has come to us through Jesus. In His name we pray, Amen.