

GETTING REAL: JESUS OF NAZARETH ON DISCIPLESHIP

Luke 12

INTRODUCTION

I. Jesus' Invitation to the Journey

²³ And [Jesus] said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. ²⁵ For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? ²⁶ For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels." (Luke 9)

II. The Call of and Response by the Disciple (9:51-10:24)

- a. 9:51-56 – The Samaritans that wouldn't join the journey
- b. 9:57-62 – Three who wanted to, but got sidetracked
- c. 10:1-24 – The 72 that joined in the journey

²¹ "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²² All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." (Luke 10)

III. The Charter of Discipleship (10:25-10:42)

- a. 10:25-28 - The Two Great Commandments
- b. 10:29-37 – The Parable of the Good Samaritan

²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10)

IV. The Great Work of the Disciple: Prayer (11:1-13)

- a. 11:1-4 - The Lord's Prayer
- b. 11:5-8 – The Parable of the Persistent Friend
- c. 11:8-13 – The Power of Prayer

¹³ "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much

more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11)

V. The Disciple and Spiritual Discernment (11:14-54)

³⁴ *"Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. ³⁵ Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness."* (Luke 11)

VI. The Disciple and Purity of Heart (12:1-34)

- a. 1-7 - Purity of Heart is Fear of the Lord
 - b. 8-12 - Purity of Heart is Public Courage
 - c. 13-31 - The Pure in Heart handle the goods of this world with great caution
 - i. 13-15 The disciple does not love the things of this world
 - ii. 16-21 The disciple recognizes the brief nature of all possession
 - iii. 22-32 The disciple understands God's providence and lives for the Kingdom rather than for 'stuff'
 - iv. 33-34 The pure of heart uses the things of this world to Gain the things of Eternity
- ³³ *"Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."* (Luke 12)

VII. The Disciple and Preparation for the Future (12:35-59)

- a. 35-40 - Get busy! The time for investing will soon be over

"⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." (Luke 12)
- b. 41-48 - There will be huge rewards – and terrible losses

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." (Luke 12)
- c. 49-53 – Pay the price needed to be a Disciple
- d. 54-59 – Have God's insight into the nature of the present time