

Weekly Sermon Discussion Guide

March 3, 2019

An Unfailing Treasure

LUKE

Luke 12:22-34

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- What did you hear?
- What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

²⁹ And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, strive for his^g kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Luke 12:29-34

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

As we continue our journey through Luke, we are able to pick up on some common themes through Luke’s detailed writing. The main theme of love is seen throughout: Jesus’ explanation of who is to be our neighbor, being seed-bearers to the kingdom, and learning that greatness comes from humbling ourselves to serve those around us. Luke’s description of this “kingdom of love” calls us to action and teaches us to love and serve others in the world.

The most common command in the Bible is “do not fear.” Why do you think this is Jesus’ most frequent command? Consider these two disclaimers of fear and why they are important:

- 1) Not all fear is bad: reverence of the power of God should bring us to our knees**
- 2) The misnomer that if we have enough faith, our anxieties and fears will go away**

Our fears and worries are a reflection of our hearts. We fear the people and things that we care the most about. Jesus broadens our perspective on fear by reminding us how much He cares for the rest of his creation, such as the ravens and lilies. That God is active in the world and not indifferent to the things we care about helps us in turn to broaden our own perspective.

What does it mean to you today in regard to your family, friends, careers, and more when Jesus says, “don’t be afraid?” When in your life have you seen God show up among your anxieties and fears? How has that given you hope that He will show up again and again?

Jesus doesn’t stop at merely offering the perspective and reminder that He is at work in the world all around us. He encourages us to take the time and energy that we spend in fear and transfer it to work for the things of the kingdom. Kingdoms are centered around a person, and in this case, the heart of Jesus – a kingdom of love.

Knowing that God is at work in the middle of our lives, how does that help you trust him more to seek what you are called to do? Discuss practices that can help you take the energy involved in worrying and turn it into a confidence that can help you strive for things of the kingdom, using your own unique gifts.

Dear Lord, thank you for teaching us about your kingdom of love. May we have eyes to see how we can be a part of your kingdom here on earth, using the gifts you have entrusted to us. Help us channel our fears into loving others. Amen.