


GET READY FOR THE END


DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

LUKE 21:1-38


- 1 **As you reflect on the story of the widow's offering in Luke 21:1-4, what lessons or insights about giving stand out to you?** How does this story challenge our understanding of true generosity?


 Consider the following New Testament passages: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, Acts 20:35, 1 Timothy 6:17-19, James 2:15-17, Matthew 6:19-21, Philippians 4:15-17. How do they provide guidance or principles on the topic of giving in today's context? How do they shape our understanding?


 Beyond the mere amount of the gift, what else should we remember that God sees when we give? Why is that important to remember?

 What are some practical ways to remember what God sees in our giving, whether in our resources, time, or talents?

- 2 **Luke 21:5-9, 25-28 speaks of signs and the end of times.** What do these passages teach us about recognizing God's hand in the unfolding of history and events?

 The Jews thought that their temple would be a monument to their culture and a permanent representation of their religious institution. But Jesus says otherwise in (Luke 21:5-6). What are some of the institutions or cultural assumptions that seem immovable and permanent today? What's the truth that we need to hold to?

 Picture a disciple of Jesus in the year AD 70. How would they have felt reading Luke 21 after the destruction of Jerusalem? What would have been affirmed or validated about Jesus and how would it inform His radical call to forsake everything and follow Him?

 With the themes of destruction, persecution, and the end of times, Luke 21 also carries a strong message of hope and redemption. Where do you see hope in this text and how should that hope influence your daily life and interactions?

3 **Jesus calls us to live faithfully as we await his return.** This involves carefully navigating worldly pleasure and anxiety. Luke 21:34 mentions the “dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life.” What about our world can distract us from remembering the imminence of Jesus’ return?

♥ *How are you personally most tempted to be distracted in watching and waiting for Jesus?*

💡 *How can a believer cultivate a sense of expectancy for Jesus’ return? Think of some daily habits or practices that could be adopted to remain focused and alert to Christ’s imminent return.*

4 **It’s been said, “Live as though Jesus may return today. Work as though he won’t return for thirty years.”** How does the saying reflect the tension between the urgency of following Jesus and the long-term commitment to discipleship? *Why is this kind of mindset important in a believer?*

🗨️ *When have you felt the tension between immediate expectancy and long-term commitment in your walk with Christ? How did you navigate that?*

💡 *How can we encourage and support each other in holding onto both of these perspectives in our lives?*

5 **Luke 21 promises two things about the future -- future suffering and future triumph.** Think about where we see those themes in other places in the Bible. See Romans 8:18-25, 2 Corinthians 4:8-10; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, Job 42:10-17, 1 Peter 4:12-13. For further thought, consider Isaiah 53 (suffering) and Isaiah 60 (glory).

♥ *How do the two elements of the future suffering and triumph of the days ahead challenge or comfort you? How can we practically focus on the triumph of Christ and anticipate his return with excitement? How can we worry less and hope more?*

6 **How can we pray for each other that we would have a right and healthy perspective when it comes to the Lord’s second coming?** Think practically as you wrap up this discussion. In what ways can you make sure you’re ready for the return of Christ?