

BE THE CHANGE

WEEK 3 | HEART AND ABILITIES | LUKE 12:35-48

INSPECTION: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What are the two traits of one who is ready? Verse 35

When do important things often happen? Verse 39-40

What was Peter's question and how did Jesus respond? Verse 41-42

What is the fate of the servants who neglected doing what they needed to do? Verse 47

What is the expectation of those who are entrusted with much? Verse 48

OBSERVATION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Why is being watchful not a passive activity?

What do we learn about Jesus' return in the parable?

How much do we underestimate those things with which we individually and collectively are entrusted?

What influences in our culture tend to harden our hearts?

What influences help us to "know the masters will" as referenced in verse 47?

LIFE APPLICATION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

Consider what you can do for God with your abilities.

Eliminate 2 things that tend to distract you from your focus on Jesus.

Live today as if Jesus is returning tomorrow.

Make a priority list of the things that have been entrusted to you.

Send a note of encouragement to someone that demonstrates servanthood.

MEDITATION: WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

2 Corinthians 4:5

Matthew 20:28

Ephesians 6:7-8

Matthew 25:23

1 Peter 5:5

Philippians 2:3-4

Romans 12:11

Luke 10:27

SUPPLICATION: WHAT CAN WE MEDITATE?

Psalm 51 Written after Nathan the prophet had come to inform David of God's judgment against him because of his adultery with Bathsheba and his murder of Uriah, her husband.

O loving and kind God, have mercy. Have pity upon me and take away the awful stain of my transgressions. Oh, wash me, cleanse me from this guilt. Let me be pure again. For I admit my shameful deed—it haunts me day and night. It is against You and You alone I sinned and did this terrible thing. You saw it all, and Your sentence against me is just. But I was born a sinner, yes, from the moment my mother conceived me. You deserve honesty from the heart; yes, utter sincerity and truthfulness. Oh, give me this wisdom.

Sprinkle me with the cleansing blood and I shall be clean again. Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. And after You have punished me, give me back my joy again. Don't keep looking at my sins—erase them from Your sight. Create in me a new, clean heart, O God, filled with clean thoughts and right desires. Don't toss me aside, banished forever from Your presence. Don't take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me again the joy of Your salvation and make me willing to obey You. Then I will teach Your ways to other sinners, and they—guilty like me—will repent and return to You. Don't sentence me to death. O my God, You alone can rescue me. Then I will sing of Your forgiveness, for my lips will be unsealed—oh, how I will praise You.

You don't want penance; if You did, how gladly I would do it! You aren't interested in offerings burned before You on the altar. It is a broken spirit You want—remorse and penitence. A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not ignore.

And Lord, don't punish Israel for my sins—help Your people and protect Jerusalem.

And when my heart is right, then You will rejoice in the good that I do and, in the bullocks, I bring to sacrifice upon Your altar. **(New Living Translation)**