SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Luke

Chapter 12

Rich Toward God, Ready for the Master

MEMORY VERSE · LUKE 12:32

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom."

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Luke 12

Luke 12 asks a man what he fears, what he owns, what keeps him awake at night, and what he will be doing when Jesus comes back. This week let the Father who counts every hair on your head take the fear, the greed and the worry, and keep your lamp lit for the Master who comes to serve.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the Luke study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

Fear Him, Not Them

READ · LUKE 12:1–12

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does Jesus call the "leaven of the Pharisees," and what does He say about sparrows and the hairs of your head (12:1, 6–7)?

REFLECT

Jesus says whatever is whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops (12:3). What are you hiding that you would be ashamed to hear shouted from a roof, and who could you bring it to now?

REFLECT

Jesus tells His friends not to fear people who can only kill the body, and then says, "Do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows" (12:4–7). Whose opinion or threat do you fear most, and how does this change it?

RESPOND — TODAY

Confess Jesus out loud to one person today (12:8) — a simple sentence about what He means to you.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 12:32)

DAY 2 OF 5

The Rich Fool

READ · LUKE 12:13–21

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the man in the crowd want from Jesus, and what did the rich man plan to do with his big harvest (12:13, 17–19)?

REFLECT

The rich man talked about "my crops", "my barns", "my grain", "my goods" and "my soul", and never mentioned God (12:17–19). In your plans for the next year, where is God in the sentence?

REFLECT

God said, "This very night your soul is required of you" (12:20). If tonight were your last, what would you wish you had given away, made right or said?

RESPOND — TODAY

Give something away today — money, time or a possession — that it hurts a little to give, and tell God you are doing it to be "rich toward God" (12:21).

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 12:32)

DAY 3 OF 5

Ravens and Lilies

READ · LUKE 12:22–34

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does God do for the ravens and for the grass, and what does Jesus tell us to seek instead of food and clothing (12:24, 28, 31)?

REFLECT

Jesus asks, "which of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life's span?" (12:25). What has worry actually done for you this past month?

REFLECT

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (12:34). If someone looked at where your money and your hours went last week, where would he say your heart is?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down your biggest worry, then write next to it: "your Father knows that you need these things" (12:30), and pray about it once instead of all day.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 12:32)

DAY 4 OF 5

Lamps Lit

READ · LUKE 12:35–48

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does the master do for the slaves he finds awake, and what does the bad slave say in his heart before he starts beating the others (12:37, 45)?

REFLECT

The master "will gird himself to serve" the slaves who are ready (12:37). How does it change your picture of Jesus to know He serves His people?

REFLECT

Jesus says, "From everyone who has been given much, much will be required" (12:48). What has God put in your hands — people, skills, second chances — and what would faithfulness with it look like?

RESPOND — TODAY

Do one faithful thing today that nobody will see but the Master — a job you have been putting off, a call you owe, a man you could serve.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 12:32)

DAY 5 OF 5

Settle on the Way

READ · LUKE 12:49–59

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What does Jesus say He came to cast on the earth, what baptism is He waiting for, and what does He tell the crowd to do on the way to the magistrate (12:49–50, 58)?

REFLECT

Jesus said He was "distressed" until His baptism — the cross — was accomplished (12:50). What does it mean to you that He walked toward that suffering on purpose?

REFLECT

Following Jesus can divide a household (12:51–53). Where has your faith cost you something with family or old friends, and how can you love them without letting go of Christ?

RESPOND — TODAY

If there is anything unsettled between you and God, settle it today in prayer (12:58); if there is something unsettled with a person, take the first step toward making it right.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (LUKE 12:32)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Jesus warned His disciples about hypocrisy first of all (12:1). What would it take for our group to be a place where men can take off their masks?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Greed and worry both keep our eyes on things instead of on God (12:15, 22). Which one is the bigger battle for you right now, and how can the group help?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

The Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect (12:40). If we really lived like that this month, what would we start doing, and what would we stop?

MY PRAYER

Father, You count every hair on my head and gladly give Your little flock the kingdom, so I bring You my fear and my worry and ask You to…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · LUKE 12:32

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom.”