

**I. Read Luke 12:49-55**

- A. In verse 49, Jesus is speaking of the coming judgment. Why do you suppose He used a metaphor like fire to speak of judgment?
- B. How does Jesus' willingness to speak of a coming judgment differ from many folks' perception of Him?
- C. In verse 50, Jesus refers to a baptism which He must undergo. To what does He refer?
- D. In verses 51-53, Jesus further contrasts popular misconceptions with the truth. What is the misconception that most have of Christ?
- E. What are some common ideas in our day that make the words of Jesus in verses 51-53 so difficult to some?
- F. Why is the description of families being divided by Jesus difficult for us to understand?
- G. In verses 54-57, Jesus uses an example that His contemporaries would understand to help them see the folly of their failure to repent. What example does He use?
- H. What point is Jesus making in using this example?

**II. Read Luke 12:55-59**

- A. In these verses, Jesus uses a real-world illustration to help His listeners understand His teaching. What does the illustration mean and why is it appropriate?

- B. If men fail to be reconciled to God, what should they expect? (Hebrews 9:27)
  
- C. What is the only way of escape from the coming judgment? (Acts 3:17-20)
  
- D. What should those who reject Christ and are expecting to escape the coming judgment be aware of? (John 3:18)
  
- E. What did Christ do for sinners? (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18)
  
- F. What is the gospel?