

“PLAN TO SUCCEED!”

Luke 12:35-48 - Pastor Bruce French

What should we plan for?

1. We should plan to get a surprise _____. Luke 12:35-40

Assertion #1...

- Preparedness invites _____.

Action...

- Order your _____.
- Calendar your _____.

2. We should plan to receive greater _____.

Luke 12:41-48a

Assertion #2...

- Stewardship invites _____.

Action...

- Define your _____.
- Plan your _____.

Take Home Truth

We should plan to give a successful _____.

Luke 12:48b

Today's Core Belief:

Christian Service: I believe that God gives all Christians a gift to help others and glorify him.
(from 1 Corinthians 12:4-6)

Today's Action:

Complete the stated actions in the outline.



Deeper Connection Study

Although eschatology (the study of last things) informs us about the future, it also prepares us to serve God faithfully. Once again, Jesus is teaching people about the necessity of being ready for his return.

Today's Core Belief discussed: **Christian Service**

Read Luke 12:35-48

1. Why does Jesus expect his disciples to be in a constant state of readiness (v. 35)? What images does he use to illustrate this (vv. 35-40)?
2. What is so important about the coming of the Son of Man (v. 40)?
3. How does Jesus answer Peter's inquiry (vv. 41-48)? What is the thrust of Jesus' parable?
4. What are three possible punishments of the erring servant (vv. 45-48)? Why would Jesus say such things?
5. How should we be preparing for Jesus' return?
6. How is Jesus' call to responsible and ready service actually a call to faithful stewardship? How will we be held accountable?

Prayer to the point: Praise God that Jesus is coming back! Ask God to help you be eager and ready for Christ's second coming and live faithfully in light of his return. Pray for a heart that joyfully serves the Master.

**I DON'T CARE FOR RELIGION
PLAN TO SUCCEED!**

February 4, 2018 - Luke 12:35-48

As Jesus transitioned from his exhortation against worry, he pointed to the alternative, which was storing up treasures in heaven. In our next section in Luke, we will see that Jesus placed an emphasis on this subject by warning his disciples about the surprise of his inevitable return. Urgently he declared, "You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him," (cf. Luke 12:40).

Though Christians may disagree on the timing of Christ's return, they tend to agree that he is returning. They are familiar with Paul's declaration to the Thessalonians, "For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first," (cf. 1 Thess. 4:16). Yet, in spite of this agreement, few actually live with the sense that Jesus could return any day. Tragically, this glorious event is not the focus of their day, or their priorities.

How about you, in a week's time how often do you think that Christ is coming back, and the fact that you will be required to provide an account for the way you stewarded your time and opportunities?

