



Week 15

Series: Equipped

Sermon Title: Who Is on the Throne of Your Heart?

Sermon Text: Luke 12:1-12

Group Week of: August 4, 2024

Sermon Date: August 11, 2024

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Peter's Denial – John 18:1-27
Day 2	Peter's Restoration – John 21:1-19
Day 3	Matthew's Account – Matt 12:22-37
Day 4	Fear God – Proverbs 1:1-7
Day 5	Forgiveness – 1 John 1:5-10

The Text: Luke 12:4-10

⁴“I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. ⁵But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him. ⁶Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ⁷Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

⁸“I tell you, whoever publicly acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man will also acknowledge before the angels of God. ⁹But whoever disowns me before others will be disowned before the angels of God. ¹⁰And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.

Textual Questions

- 1) What is (are) the main lesson(s) you see Jesus giving to His disciples (and us) through this text?
- 2) Explain the paradox of fearing God yet trusting in His love?
- 3) What does it mean to “blaspheme against the Holy Spirit”?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Fear is an emotion that we tend to push away as much as possible. However, if we learn to treat fear like a check engine light, we can use it as a warning sign. By listening to our fears, we learn what we care about, love, and hope to preserve. What do you fear? What do you worry about? What gives you that feeling of anxiety? Write out a few of the things you worry about below.

- 2) Listen to and examine your fears and try to answer the following questions. (Give honest answers, not just the “right” answers.)
 - a. Based on your fears, what do you love most?

 - b. Based on your fears, where is your hope/trust?

 - c. When you feel afraid, worried, or anxious, where do you think God is and what do you think He is doing?

- 3) Discuss your fears with your life group and talk about what changes you may need to make to love God more, hope in Him more, and believe His truth more.

- 4) Of all the fears that keep us from doing what God calls us to do, one of the greatest is “fear of man.” Whether we fear embarrassment, losing our jobs, or rejection, many of these fears reduce down to “fear of man.” Where do you struggle most with fear of man? Who are the people in your life whose opinion or relationship you value most highly?

- 5) Fear of man must be replaced with fear of God. When you are more afraid of man than you are of God, what steps need to be taken to make sure you fear God more than man?

- 6) Jesus expects us to publicly acknowledge Him before others. How do you do this? What has happened as a result of publicly acknowledging Jesus before others?

- 7) Aside from blaspheming the Holy Spirit, every sin can be forgiven, even if we speak words against Jesus. In what ways have you unintentionally insulted Jesus through your fear? Be sure to both seek His forgiveness and rest securely and without shame in the sweetness and completeness of His grace.