

I. Read Luke 12:49-54

- 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?

How does Jesus' willingness to speak of a coming judgment differ from many folks' perception of Him?

- B. In verse 50, Jesus refers to a baptism which He must undergo. To what does He refer?
- C. In verses 51-53, Jesus further contrasts popular misconceptions with the truth. What is the misconception that most have of Christ?

What are some common ideas in our day that make the words of Jesus in vs. 51-53 so difficult to some?

- D. Why is the description of families being divided by Jesus difficult for us to understand?
- E. In vs. 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?

What point is Jesus making in using this example?

How did the people of Jesus' day resemble folks in our day?

- F. In verse 58, Jesus uses a *real world* illustration to help His listeners understand the folly of failing to come to terms with God. What is the illustration and why is it appropriate?

If men fail to be reconciled to God, what should they expect? (Hebrews 9:27)

What is the only way of escape from the coming judgment? (Acts 3:17-20)

What should those who reject Christ and are expecting to escape the coming judgment be aware of? (John 3:18)

What did Christ do for sinners? (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinth. 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18)

What is the gospel? (1 Corinth. 15:1-4)