



Sermon Growth Guide

August 3, 2025

There is Gentleness

Luke 12:22-34

Key Verse: Luke 12:32 “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.”

Big Idea: Our Lord gently calms our fears. Jesus called His disciples little children—not to insult, but with love. He invites us to be like children to enter His Kingdom. “Do not be afraid, little flock.” His face is full of gentleness.

Foundations

This week we continue our In the Face of Jesus sermon series in which we examine the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22) as shown in the person and ministry of Jesus. The focus now is on *gentleness*.

Today’s passage is Luke 12:22-34 finds Jesus speaking to His disciples about the subject of not worrying. In this, we find God’s gentle provision for His people and the reminder that worrying cannot increase God’s care or provide added security beyond the peace and contentment of God’s kingdom.

Jesus used everyday examples to illustrate His point. First, He asked his disciples to consider the ravens who do not sow or reap, but God feeds them nonetheless.

Second, He asked His disciples to consider the wild flowers and how they grow with spender, and then noted how much more God clothes His children with even greater splendor.

Finally, Jesus instructed His disciples to sell their possessions and give to the poor and put their trust in the treasure of heaven not in earthly wealth, security and wealth. Through this passage, Jesus spoke of radical surrender and radical trust. He called His disciples to embrace a value system that was the inversion of the natural and worldly system of fallen humanity.

Understanding God’s Word

Read Luke 12:1-59. Yes, the whole chapter! Understanding today’s passage in the context of the whole chapter is important to see how the pieces fit together. What themes to you find? How are they stressed? Are they repeated? What seem to be the priorities that Jesus is presenting?

Applying God’s Word

Our lives today can be complex with a number of pressures and stresses. Do you find the words of Jesus to be comforting, impractical or somewhere in between? Surrendering control in our lives might be one of the hardest things to do, but Jesus told His disciples to do that and trust that God will provide. If Jesus said those words to you what would you say in response? What areas of control would be the most difficult to surrender? What about God’s gentle character would give you confidence and hope to trust and follow the words of Jesus?

Witnessing God’s Word

How might you practice and demonstrate the values of this passage to others around you? If someone said, “You seem to not stress over things...” what would you say was the reason? Try to think of one person you know who is struggling with control and building up worldly treasure. What might you say to them to start a spiritual conversation about Kingdom values?