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## Digging Deeper and Rising Higher

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What haunting truth is Jesus declaring in Luke 12:49-53? Why do we need to keep this constantly in our minds?

What is our responsibility as Christ followers, to those who are spiritually blind and unaware of the judgment they will face one day before God? How will you fulfill this responsibility?

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## Some Thoughts to Take With You

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People do not drift toward holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith, and delight in the Lord. We drift toward compromise and call it tolerance; we drift toward disobedience and call it freedom; we drift toward superstition and call it faith. We cherish the indiscipline of lost self-control and call it relaxation; we slouch toward prayerlessness and delude ourselves into thinking we have escaped legalism; we slide toward godlessness and convince ourselves we have been liberated.

D.A. Carson

(Jesus Christ's) zeal never degenerated into passion, nor His constancy into obstinacy, nor His benevolence into weakness, nor His tenderness into sentimentality. His unworldliness was free from indifference and unsociability. His dignity from pride and presumption, His affectability from undue familiarity, His self-denial from moroseness, His temperance from austerity. He combined child-like innocence with manly strength, absorbing devotion to God with untiring interest in the welfare of man, tender love to the sinner with uncompromising severity against sin, commanding dignity with winning humility, fearless courage with wise caution, unyielding firmness with sweet gentleness!

Philip Schaff

It may well be that the world is denied miracle after miracle and triumph after triumph because we will not bring to Christ what we have and what we are. If, just as we are, we would lay ourselves on the altar of service of Jesus Christ, there is no saying what Christ could do with us and through us. We may be sorry and embarrassed that we have not more to bring—and rightly so; but that is not reason for failing or refusing to bring what we have and what we are. Little is always much in the hands of Christ.

William Barclay

## Missional Stewardship #4 A Simple Strategy for Missional Living

Luke 12:49-59

**Introduction:** Why does Jesus stress this topic of faithful stewardship? Why must we make fueling the mission of Christ a life-long priority? The simple, haunting truth is that many around us everyday, while aware of their brokenness, are unaware both of the cure for it, and of the coming judgment before the court of heaven. But there is good news! Through His church, Jesus Christ is spreading the message of rescue, transformation, and forgiveness. It is our great privilege to be part of that rescue effort, using all we are and have to fuel the mission of Christ.

### A Simple Strategy for Missional Living

#### Understand Christ's Mission

Luke 12:49-53

The judgment sin deserves: *satisfying God's law*

The rescue grace accomplishes: *showcasing God's love*

The division Jesus brings: *separating faith and foolishness*

#### Recognize the Reality of Spiritual Blindness

Luke 12:54-56

Successful on earth

Failing in heaven

#### Grasp the Tragedy of Spiritual Complacency

Luke 12:57-59

Unaware

Unprepared

Out of time

#### What do we do with all this?

Live up to the Gospel personally

Live out the Gospel publicly

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**A Simple Strategy for Missional Living**

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# KIDS NOTES

## A Simple Strategy

### Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

- When Jesus comes back:
  - the righteous will be delivered and blessed.
  - the wicked will be judged and condemned.
  - the Yankees just might win a series.
  - A and B above.
- Those who are "spiritually blind" cannot see:
  - what the weather will be today.
  - the truth of their sin, and the Gospel of Jesus.
  - if the light is on in the room or not.
  - all of the above.
- As believers we have the privilege of fueling God's mission:
  - with our time.
  - with our skills.
  - with our money.
  - all of the above.

**For Family Discussion:** In what ways can you as a family use your time, skills, and money to fuel the mission of Christ at Northpoint?

### Space to Doodle

### Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

	TOTAL
JESUS _____	_____
JUDGMENT _____	_____
BLINDNESS _____	_____
COMPLACENCY _____	_____
GOSPEL _____	_____
SPIRITUAL _____	_____

### Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

JESUS JUDGMENT BLINDNESS COMPLACENCY GOSPEL SIN FAITH  
 GRACE LOVE LAW WRATH RESCUE SPIRITUAL BELIEF HEAVEN HELL  
 JUDGE ETERNAL PHYSICAL DIVISION DEATH CROSS SAVE CROWDS  
 CLOUD WEATHER SIGNS AGE HYPOCRITES RIGHT

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L B C N I S R T U B P Q O B S G Y
A P W O F Y V S L E W W L M D O U
C W K H M L A U T I R I P S W S L
I S U Y V P A N S N N G A K O P E
S Q S P W Z L U E D E V R J R E G
Y M K O O E S A N V E M U A C L A
H R J C R E A E C N A D G R C C Q
P I Z R J C S T O E G E E D D E W
X P S I L S W I H E N S H N U N R
F A I T H O S A K E C C M O O J A
H T A E D I V L L U R R Y S L Y T
E V Y S V P B E E A D X N R C C H
L M J I E T E R N A L G R I G H T
L B D T F E I L E B I G C T A P W
L I P L J R O U S S Z Y U K Z Z W
  
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