

Sermon Discussion Guide:

The New Normal

Scripture: **Luke 22:35–38**

Series: **The Gospel of Luke**

Sunday, May 31, 2020

OVERVIEW

We live in a fallen world with a tremendous amount of brokenness, as evidenced by the recent murders we've seen all throughout the news. These acts are tragic and evil, and yet this is the world that we live in. Jesus is fully aware of this and is giving us instruction on how we are to live as disciples in the face of evil. No matter how we interpret the specifics of this passage, the big picture is that **Jesus calls us to be prepared to live righteously in the world as we seek his glory and mankind's good.**

CORROBORATING TEXTS

John 14:18, John 14:25–26, 1 Timothy 6:10, Hebrews 13:5, Romans 12:18–21, Psalm 82:4, James 2:14, Exodus 22:2–3

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. We've seen some very public displays of evil and injustice in our world lately with the recent murders. How have you personally been processing through these? How should we as Christians feel about and respond to these acts?
2. Why would Jesus previously command the disciples to not bring a money bag, knapsack, or sandals and then command them to take those items after he has ascended? What has changed for the disciples?
3. There are several interpretations of how to understand what Jesus means when he says, "let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one." Which interpretation do you tend to lean towards given the context of the passage and Jesus' other teachings?
4. How do we reconcile biblical passages that call us to peace (Romans 12:18–21) and "turning the other cheek" (Luke 6:29) with the right to defend ourselves (Exodus 22:2–3)?
5. There's a clear biblical command to defend the innocent and care for the weak and needy in our society (Psalm 82:4). What does that look like for us in our day and age? How are you currently doing at that? What are ways you want to grow in that regard?
6. How do we prepare ourselves to live righteously in the world? How does community help us in this?