
Sermon Discussion Questions
Series: Hope Fulfilled **Date:** 10/04/2026

Undivided Hearts for God
Luke 12:49–59

1. The Cost of Following Jesus: Jesus explains that following Him can bring division, even within close relationships. The sermon emphasized that living for Christ may put us at odds with the values and expectations of the world. Where might following Jesus create tension in your relationships, workplace, or community? How can you remain faithful to Christ while continuing to love others well?

2. Divided Hearts and the Desire for Approval: The sermon described the struggle of wanting to follow God while also wanting the world's acceptance. Why is the desire for approval so powerful in our lives? In what areas might the desire to fit in tempt us to compromise our convictions or hold back from full discipleship?

3. Recognizing the Signs of God's Kingdom: In Luke 12:54–56, Jesus rebukes the crowd for recognizing signs of the weather but failing to recognize what God was doing. The sermon challenged us not to become so distracted by daily concerns, politics, news, or personal fears that we neglect our spiritual lives. What distractions most often compete for your attention? How can you become more attentive to God's work in your heart and in the world around you?

4. Choosing Faithfulness Over Fear: The sermon explained that being distinct from the world does not mean becoming arrogant, isolated, or afraid of people. Instead, we are called to live with a different hope and to demonstrate the love of Christ, even when it costs us. What is the difference between being distinctively Christian and simply being against the world? How can we stand firm in our convictions while showing humility, compassion, and Christlike love?

5. Christ Makes Our Divided Hearts Whole: The sermon concluded that Jesus is the One who makes our divided hearts whole. Through His death and resurrection, we receive forgiveness and peace with God, and His Spirit transforms us. Why is trying harder or relying on our own strength insufficient to produce an undivided heart? How should the grace of Christ shape our daily pursuit of obedience and our response when we fail?

Closing Application: What is one area of your life where you need to move from a divided heart toward wholehearted devotion to Christ? What practical step can you take this week, relying on His grace and the work of His Spirit?

Interpretation / Application Questions

Interpretation:

1. What does this passage teach us about God? God is the main character of the Bible, so he should be our starting point. Every passage of Scripture reveals something about God, even if he's not specifically mentioned.

2. What does this passage teach us about people? As the pinnacle of God's creation, humans are at the center of his purposes. Think through what the passage reveals about our identity as divine image-bearers.

3. What does this passage teach us about how to relate to God? Loving God with our whole being expresses itself in a variety of ways. Start by looking for reasons to praise God.

4. What does this passage teach us about how to relate to others? God created us to be in community with one another. When he saves us from our sins, he makes us part of the body of Christ. Start by considering what the passage shows about interacting with others—family, friends, roommates, coworkers, classmates, neighbors, fellow believers, non-Christians, etc.

Application:

1. What does God want us to understand/think? God has given us the mind of Christ, but we are still tempted to think the way we did before we knew Christ. Deep and lasting transformation begins with the renewal of our minds. Reflect on any wrong ways of thinking that the passage exposes.

2. What does God want us to believe? We may understand a truth at an intellectual level without letting it shape how we live. Consider what false beliefs the passage reveals and what gospel promises you need to believe.

3. What does God want us to desire? This question targets the affections—the combination of desires, inclinations, feelings, and will that are the spring of our actions. God calls us to desire him above all else, but apart from the work of the gospel we will desire what's evil. Reflect on how you see the sinful desires mentioned or implied in the passage show up in your own life, as well as the kind of godly desires you should be cultivating.

4. What does God want us to do? When God's Word changes how we think, what we functionally believe, and what we desire, it will produce tangible change in what we do and don't do. Sometimes a passage gives us direct commands. But many are far less straightforward, requiring us to think carefully about specific actions.