

## **Discussion & Reflection Questions**

### **Momentum: Moving With Grace - Week 1**

#### **Read: Luke 12:49-59**

‘I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

<sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, ‘When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, “It is going to rain”; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

<sup>57</sup> ‘And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? <sup>58</sup>Thus, when you go with your accuser before a magistrate, on the way make an effort to settle the case, or you may be dragged before the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you in prison. <sup>59</sup>I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny.’

#### **Discussion & Reflection Questions**

1. This is a very ‘challenging’ bible reading. How do you approach bible readings like this that are challenging?
2. Have you experienced division in a family, in a workplace or community group, &/or in a church? How was it handled for better & worse?
3. Sometimes Jesus gives us some harsh realities about life & the world. Have you had experience with a harsh realisation after reading a bible passage or praying or reflecting on something?
4. Luke says Jesus is stressed (verse 50). How does knowing Jesus was stressed help you when you are feeling stressed?
5. When we stand with Jesus life will not be easy & there will be division. What are some of the things that are happening on the world at the moment that we have to stand with Jesus on?

6. How is standing with Jesus momentum? How can we stand with a sense of grace?

**Prayer**

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: give us grace that we may always thankfully receive the benefits of his sacrifice, and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.