

Luke 12:13-21 English Standard Version (ESV)

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” **14** But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” **15** And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” **16** And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, **17** and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ **18** And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. **19** And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ **20** But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ **21** So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Discussion/Journal Questions

Read Luke 12:13-21. How would you summarize Jesus’ teaching here in your own words?

In the sermon, John said about this passage, “This is counter-cultural to what advertisements, social media and even our friends might tell us. They say, what you don’t have is what you need to be happy and content.” How do advertisements work to convey this message?

What would happen if large numbers of people realized contentment didn’t come from more stuff?

What is worse, no money in the bank account or a distracted relationship with God?

Read Luke 18:24-25. In your own words, why is it difficult for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God?

Read Philippians 4:19. What promise do we find here? Does God promise to supply every want or every need? What is the difference?

John said, “When you are generous towards God (with your life, time and resources) you will find that God is generous towards you.” How have you experienced this in your own life?

When you think about your finances, what one or two changes do you need to make to be more in line with King Jesus’ view of wealth?

How can your group help you implement these changes?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?