



**Series Title:** "An Introduction to Hope: The Gospel of Luke"  
**Message Title:** "Characteristics of a Hopeful Christian"

**Date:** March 28, 2021  
**Teaching:** Allen Mom

**Reference:** Luke 12:32-34 ESV<sup>1</sup>

<sup>32</sup> "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

**Message Summary:**

God takes pleasure, delights in willingly giving us his kingdom. In this passage we see God as shepherd, father, and king.

- Shepherd: he brings us into his flock (face it... we are like sheep). He gives us the provision, protection and direction we need.
- Father: he is near, he cares for us, and he delights in giving (cf. James 1:17). He also disciplines us as a loving father.
- King: he is the true and perfect king who rules in power and with all authority. To be given God's kingdom is to have full access to the king and to the benefits of his kingdom (cf. Rev. 1:4-7).

Verses 33 & 34 show us three characteristics of a hopeful Christian.

- Generous, not fearful. Check the posture of your heart. Remember, we are stewards, not owners.
- Eternally minded, not earthly minded. The world pulls our perspective from God's priorities to that of the culture.
- Hearts led, not followed. When we follow our hearts, we treasure things other than Jesus. When we are led, we treasure our Savior.

**Discussion Questions:**

- What am I holding on to so tightly that I can't give it up? Why?
- How do the actions and decisions of my life speak to my true allegiance?
- Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. How does Paul express Jesus' teaching here?
- What did you take away from this message?
- What can you do to apply the message to your own life?

<sup>1</sup> *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Luke 12:32-34). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles*

