

GENEROUS



Luke 12:13-21, 32-34, ESV – ¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And 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.” ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸And 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. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

³²“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell 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. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Notes:

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SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of June 23, 2019

Luke 12:12-21, 32-34

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This weekend we were reminded to be generous with all that God has given us, including all our wealth and riches. Which of the two "enemies" of generosity do you most struggle with? Explain.
- 2 How can a believer live for God's kingdom and not their own comfort?
- 3 How is living for God's kingdom counter cultural in America? Why is it so difficult to resist the temptation of living like the rest of the country?
- 4 How does it make you feel when you hear that we are to live generously and not for our own comfort? What can you do to help you keep the correct mindset as you seek to live the life God wants?

DIGGING DEEPER

A *Ecc 5:10, ESV – ¹⁰ He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.*

Matt 6:19-21, ESV – ¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matt 19:20-22, ESV – ²⁰ *The young man said to him, “All these I have kept. What do I still lack?”* ²¹ *Jesus said to him, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”* ²² *When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.*

5 When reading passages about riches and wealth, what should be a Christian’s view of these things?

6 What is meant by “treasures in heaven”? How are these different from treasures on earth?

7 Can you relate with the rich young man in Matthew 19:22? Explain.

B **Phil 4:11-13, ESV** – ¹¹ *Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.* ¹² *I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.* ¹³ *I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

8 Looking at the passage above, what is Paul’s secret to living a life of contentment?

9 How would you describe Paul’s view of the external features of his life? How would you describe his view of the internal features of his life?

10 How does this passage relate to riches and wealth? Are you content with your circumstances and possessions? Why or why not?

TAKING IT HOME

God calls us to be generous with our wealth instead of pursuing it foolheartedly. What would it look like for you to develop a consistent life style of generosity with your money? What steps do you need to take in order to be more generous with money?

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 49:6-10

Ecc 5:10

Rom 1:21-22

1 Tim 6:6-11

Heb 13:5