

3. Rich God calls this man a fool.

What made him a fool? How could he have dealt differently with his wealth in order to become a wise man in God's eyes?

4. Rich in the right way (verse 21). What do you think Jesus meant by being "rich toward God"? What would be some of the marks of that kind of life?

Living It Out

1. Some sins are obvious – it is clear if you have murdered, stolen or committed adultery. But, greed is much harder to recognize in our own lives. When is wanting more or wanting better greed?

2. It is hard to resist the powerful voices in our culture that constantly tell us that bigger barns make a better life and that we deserve it? What forms can greed take in our lives? How do we detect and deal with it?

3. What are the main take-away lessons about life that Jesus is teaching you in this passage?

Looking Ahead

Next week we will continue in Luke 12 by considering verses 22-33.

Toxic Assets
Luke 12:13-21

Gary Inrig

April 26, 2009

"Things that are good in themselves become toxic when we allow them to become substitutes, not supplements."

1. Toxic Assets: the Lord's warning against greed (*verses 13-15*)

II. Case Study: the Lord's parable of the rich fool (*verses 16-20*)

A. Bigger and better: the addiction of greed

B. Bankruptcy court: the verdict of the divine judge

Koinonia Small Groups Toxic Assets

Week of April 26
Luke 12:13-21

Getting Connected

One of the major themes of Jesus' teaching was money and people's attitude towards it. Why do you think this was a subject so important to him?

As you think back on the sermon, was there a principle or idea that you found clarifying, challenging or confusing?

III. Investment Advice: the Lord's test of financial success (verse 21)

Digging Deeper

1. Beware of idols: the lure of greed (verses 13-15). Jesus warns in the strongest possible way against covetousness or greed. Why does he view it as such an enemy of our relation with God?

There is no greater sin in the Bible than idolatry. Yet the Bible describes greed as idolatry (Ephesians 5:5; Colossians 3:5). What is the connection between the two?

Jesus says a man's true life is not made of the things that he owns. What do you think are the important things in a person's life?

Conclusion

2. Bigger barns make a better life! The rich fool (vv. 16-20). Someone has observed that this man has "I-problems" noting his use of personal pronouns. What are the marks of greed in this man's life?