

LifeGroup Discussion | Parable of the Rich Fool | Week of 10/12

Main Passage: Luke 12:13–21

Supporting Passages: 1 Corinthians 4:7; James 1:17; Proverbs 27:1; 1 Samuel 16:7; Ecclesiastes 2:4–11

Culture Code Emphasis: *Clarity=Kindness*

Main Idea/Question: How does God's perspective challenge the way we view our possessions, our time, and our security?

Key Areas of the Sermon

1. **Perspective Clash** — There's *our POV* and *God's POV*. From one angle, life can look successful, but from another, it may be foolish.
2. **"I Earned This" vs. "God Provides"** — Ownership is an illusion. God is the Source.
3. **"I Got Time" vs. "Your Time Is Up"** — We assume tomorrow, but God holds time.
4. **"My Life Is Full" vs. "Your Soul Is Empty"** — Full barns don't mean a full soul.
5. **Becoming Rich Toward God** — Through gratitude, generosity, eternal investment, and responding today.

PORCH TALK (casual discussion over food or interactions)

- What stood out to you most from Sunday's message?
- Have you ever had a moment where something *looked great* on the surface but was actually falling apart underneath?
- Why do you think it's easy to live by our POV rather than God's?
- How can this week's message shape how you approach your finances, time, or security?

Anchor Verse: Luke 12:15 — "For not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions."

Reflective Passages: Deuteronomy 8:12–18; James 4:13–15; Revelation 3:17; Psalm 90:12; 2 Corinthians 8:9

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LIVING ROOM (deeper discussion for those who heard the sermon)

1) Perspective Clash: Our POV vs. God's POV

Read: Luke 12:13–15

Context: A man brings a financial dispute to Jesus, but Jesus exposes a deeper heart issue: greed and misplaced security.

Say: There are always two perspectives—ours and God's. The rich fool looked wise to the world, but God called him a fool.

Ask: Where do you sense a clash between your perspective and God's in how you approach life or resources?

2) "I Earned This" vs. "God Provides"

Read: Luke 12:16–18; Deuteronomy 8:12–18; 1 Corinthians 4:7

Context: The man mistook God's provision for his own production. His speech is filled with *"my barns, my crops, my goods, my soul."*

Say: Ownership is an illusion. Everything we have is received, not achieved. When we remember God as the Source, it changes how we hold things.

Ask: Where are you tempted to take credit for what God has given? How might gratitude loosen your grip?

3) "I Got Time" vs. "Your Time Is Up"

Read: Luke 12:19–20; James 4:13–15; Proverbs 27:1

Context: The man made 30-year plans on a 12-hour timeline. He assumed time was his.

Say: One of the most dangerous spiritual words is "later." God calls us to respond *today*.

Ask: Where have you been saying "later" to God? How can you respond in obedience now instead of postponing?

4) "My Life Is Full" vs. "Your Soul Is Empty"

Read: Luke 12:21; Revelation 3:17; 1 Samuel 16:7; Ecclesiastes 2:4–11

Context: The man's barns were full, but his soul was bankrupt. Outer abundance can hide inner poverty.

Say: Stuff makes a bad master. Full hands don't equal a full heart.

Ask: Where are you tempted to equate abundance with approval, or wealth with wellness? How might God be calling you to "get rich toward Him"?

Reflective Passages: Deuteronomy 8:12–18; James 4:13–15; Revelation 3:17; Psalm 90:12; 2 Corinthians 8:9

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AFTER GLOW (reflection or follow-up)

Read: Luke 12:21 — “So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

Say: Jesus isn’t condemning hard work or abundance. He’s confronting self-sufficiency, misplaced trust, and delayed obedience. Becoming rich toward God begins by receiving what Christ laid down for us.

Ask: Which of these areas speaks to you most today?

- Recalibrate your **gratitude** — Stop saying “I earned this.” Start saying “I received this.”
- Loosen your **grip** — Generosity breaks the grip of possessions over the heart.
- **Invest in eternity** — Serve, give, forgive, release.
- **Deal with God now** — Stop saying “later.”

Reflection Verse: 2 Corinthians 8:9 — “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.”

Follow-Up & Challenge

- **Share:** One specific way you want to become “rich toward God” this week.
 - **Pray:** For a shift in perspective from “*my barns*” to “*God’s provision.*”
 - **Challenge:** Identify one area where you’ve said “later” to God and take one *step of obedience today.*
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Reflective Passages: Deuteronomy 8:12–18; James 4:13–15; Revelation 3:17; Psalm 90:12; 2 Corinthians 8:9