

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**The Christian's Wealth**

LUKE 12:13-21

OVERVIEW

Luke is the longest and most comprehensive of the four Gospels, presenting Jesus as the Perfect Man who came to save sinful men. Growing belief and growing opposition develop side by side. Those who believe his claims are challenged to count the cost of discipleship; those who oppose him will not be satisfied until the Son of Man hangs lifeless on a cross. But the resurrection ensures that his ministry of seeking and saving the lost will continue through his disciples once they have been equipped with the indwelling Holy Spirit. Luke reveals that Jesus is the King, and he has come to inaugurate his Kingdom. (Adapted from *Talk Through the Bible*).

OBSERVE, INTERPRET & APPLY // LUKE 12:13-21

Study the passage of Scripture aiming to faithfully interpret and apply what you observe. Remember we study God's word not just to increase our knowledge, but to increase our trust in and treasuring of Jesus Christ.

Overview/Big Idea: Jesus warns us not to covet so that we may have full life and true riches.

1. Read Luke 12:1-21.
2. In the first 12 verses of chapter 12, what has Jesus been teaching?
3. What is the man in verse 13 most concerned about? What does that tell us about the posture of this man's heart? What does this tell us about how this man views Jesus? How might we be tempted toward acting/believing like this man?
4. How does Jesus respond to this man's question in verse 14? Why does Jesus respond this way?
5. Jesus uses this occasion to offer a strong warning against coveting. What does it mean to be covetous? What types of covetousness might we be susceptible to as individuals? As a church?
6. Notice Jesus doesn't give a warning only, he also tells us why we shouldn't covet. What reason does Jesus give? What does Jesus mean by life? Why are we tempted to believe life does consist in the abundance of possessions?
7. Read 12:16-21 again.
8. What is Jesus' main point in this parable?
9. Why is this rich man called a fool? (NOTE: It's not because he has an abundance – there's nothing inherently wrong with being materially rich, though it is always dangerous!)
10. In verse 21, what is Jesus comparing and contrasting? What does it mean and look like to lay up treasure for ourselves? What does it mean and look like to be rich toward God?
11. Why is it important to realize Jesus isn't trying to take something from us but give full life and true riches to us? How does the gospel remind us of this truth?

- General Bible study questions:
 - **God:** What does this passage teach me about the character of God?
 - **Humanity:** What does this passage teach me about myself and my need for God?
 - **Christ:** How does this passage teach me that God has met my needs in the person and work of Jesus Christ?
 - **Response:** How should I respond with my affections and my actions?
 - **God:** How does this passage help me hope in heaven?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: How have you experienced the riches of God as being better than the riches of this world recently? Are there areas where you're struggling to believe life does not consist in the abundance of possessions?