



Related Scriptures

Proverbs 11:28, 15:27, 18:11, 28:25; Ecclesiastes 5:10

Introduction

Today, we continue our **“Summer Stories”** series with the parable affectionately known as, **“The Rich Fool”**. This week we’ll see Jesus address a topic that we all struggle with from time-to-time. Namely, the faulty confidence that possessions can give us. The temptation we face as we look at this story is to assume that it’s for someone else. Greed or covetousness is a sin no one ever sees in themselves, but can always spot in someone else. We’re quick to admit that we can be selfish, quick-tempered, and impatient, but we drag our feet when it comes to admitting our own greed. So, let’s not assume today’s lesson is for someone else.

BIG Idea

Live generously and be on guard against greed.

Discussion Questions

1. What insight from Sunday’s sermon did you find to be the most encouraging or challenging?
2. If someone gave you a million dollars, what would you do with it?

Read Luke 12:13-21

3. How would you define “covetousness” or “greed”? What do these terms falsely assume?
4. Read the “Related Scriptures” listed at the top of this page and discuss what they teach about greed.
5. Charles Spurgeon once said that greed “is a sin which the world does not rebuke”. Do you agree or disagree? Explain. What warning does Jesus give us in verse 15? Why is greed a sin that we can spot in others, but rarely see in ourselves? How are we tempted to justify our own greediness?
6. What would this parable look like if it were set in a modern context? Why did Jesus call the rich man a “fool”? Does Jesus have a problem with our prosperity? What did the “fool” believe about his wealth?
7. What does it mean to be “rich towards God”? How can we be sure that we are honoring God with our possessions? How does the movement of your money signify the movement of your heart?
8. What is one practical step Jesus would want you to take as a result of this study?