

How? It seems so Impossible! 3 things you need, 3 things the Gospel gives you

1. You need a new hero

- ☑ Your heroes are typically people w. status, \$, stuff...
- ☑ The Gospel completely challenges your hero worship. Jesus is poor man who dies w. nothing... He comes between you + Mammon

2. You need a new status

- ☑ world = status based on \$, stuff **Danny**
- ☑ Kingdom of  $\Theta$  = status based on being a son, a daughter, of  $\Theta$  "your Father" (vs 30)  
God feeds ravens/clothes lilies

3. You need an imperishable inheritance

- ☑ vs. brother grasping at earthly inheritance + Rich Fool talking to his "life" + sons + daughters of Adam running after stuff.
- ☑ It is eternal (Jesus added eternal life to your brief days by his death) and imperishable, secure 12:33-34 "He waits for us in our deaths. Quite literally, there is nothing we need to do except to die." Robert Farrar Capon

## SCRIPTURE READING (cont)

<sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!

<sup>29</sup>And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup>For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

<sup>31</sup>Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

<sup>32</sup>"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the

kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell 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. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

This is the Word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## GIVING

### Redeemer Offerings for 2017

March total: \$12,324

Actual YTD: \$58,294

Target YTD: \$71,500

Net Difference: \$-13,206

2017 Target Budget: \$338,000

2017 Target reflects the Session's hope for giving in 2017 based on current giving and needs. Thank you for giving so cheerfully and faithfully.

## COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How prevalent is covetousness in your life? Contrast how you look to money and the things money can buy for significance, security, approval, comfort, control & power compared to Jesus and how he looked to God for these things.
2. What does the Parable of the Rich Fool teach us? You?
3. Jesus applies the Parable to our lives in very specific ways in Luke 12:22-30. What strikes you in his counsel and commands? Where do you feel Jesus is speaking to you to live a new way in regards to profaning your money and being rich to God.

3 Relevance of Jesus' parables for us today...  
"having something is being something."

### ① The Human Condition

☰☰ To make money/stuff a "god" Mammon and trust it for status, security...

| Near Idol       | Hidden Idol  |
|-----------------|--|
| Money/<br>Stuff | Status<br>Approval<br>Security<br>Control<br>Comfort |

### 3 Vantage points of your ♥ !

1. Younger brother who wants his inheritance ► status, etc.  
Jesus confronts covetousness
2. Parable of the Rich Fool Meaning of fool who speaks to his "life"
3. The sons + daughters of Adam + Eve who grasp possessions in anxiety vs. w. open hands trust ☉ like birds + flowers

Can you relate? "Control the narrative," Eric  
☑ struggle w. many forms of covetousness?  
☑ speak to yourself often as a fool?  
☑ stress + anxiety plague you?

### ② The Model Community

☰☰ Context is acknowledging Christ before Men (Luk 12:1-12). Christians are to live out, i.e. model, a whole new way of relating to money, possessions.

1. Guard themselves against all covetousness knowing that their life does not consist in the abundance of their possessions. (vs 15)
2. To be rich in their relationship to ☉ rich toward God/into God (21)
3. To not seek the \$/possessions of this world, but to trust ☉ for your life, food, clothing and to seek first His Kingdom. Jesus as Model

Wouldn't this community be beautiful, life-giving, freeing, empowering vs contemporary value, status, significance, security, etc. based on your stuff?