

Someone in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the *family* inheritance with me." ¹⁴But He said to him, "Man, who appointed Me a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵Then He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not *even* when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions." ¹⁶And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. ¹⁷And he began reasoning to himself, saying 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store y crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years *to come*; take your ease, eat, drink *and* be merry.'" ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own what you have prepared?' ²¹So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

Abundance/Abundant life is absolutely what God wants for you!

Why does Jesus say the Rich Man is a fool?

- He never saw beyond himself
- He never saw beyond this world

What do we miss?

- Possessions do not come with a "pink slip"
- God is sovereign over your time

APPLICATION -- Two Questions

- Which direction is your life focus and energy?
- With regard to TIME and STUFF: Why and What?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Prayer Requests:

Read Luke 12:13-21

The Psalmist says, “The fool says in his heart ‘there is no God’”. (Psalm 14:1) This is often called “practical atheism” – acting as if God does not exist or doesn’t care. Where do you see this in the world today? How about in your own life?

Andy Stanley (Enemies of the Heart) writes that the solution to Greed is Generosity. Do you agree? If so how? If not, why not?

Do you see that a person is either focused TOWARD self or TOWARD God? How so?

How would “seeking God first” lead us toward abundant life?

In what ways could you be more effective as a manager of time and possessions in your own life?

What one specific action can you take this week so as not to be like the “rich fool” of Luke 12?