

Parables of Jesus “The Rich Fool”

How much is enough? How much in your life materially/financially is enough?

“Each person is exposed to 3,500 desire inducing advertisements every day. The consumer is schooled in insatiability. He or she is never to be satisfied—at least not for long. The consumer is tutored that people basically consist of unmet needs that can be appeased by commodified goods and experiences.” –Rodney Clap former editor of CT

“In the beginning the church was a fellowship of men and women centered on the living Christ. Then the church moved to Greece, where it became a philosophy. Then it moved to Rome, where it became it an institution. Next it moved to Europe, where it became a culture. And finally, it moved to America, where it became an enterprise.”

Richard Halverson, Former chaplain of the US Senate

“The message of this parable is as antithetical to our thinking as any Jesus told. I know of no more difficult topic to apply personally or to the lives of Modern Western Christians.” Kyle Snodgrass, *Stories with Intent, A Comprehensive Guide to the Parables*

The Meaning of Life

Luke 12:13-15 NLT

Jesus uses the opportunity to capture the moment to teach his followers about wealth, life, and really the meaning of life...

Luke 12:16-17 NLT

Luke 12:18-19 NLT

The main point is not about economics, even about stewardship, it’s about life!

The greatest things in life are never things....

Luke 12:20-21

The implication is clear, if you are into God, you won’t be a rich fool who fails to understand the meaning of life

Luke 12:22-23

Luke 12:32-33

Our chief end is to love God and love others, it is not to make a name for ourselves, acquire worldly wealth, and insulate ourselves from the needs of the world.

“Don’t be possessed by your possessions”

- What does it look like in our culture to be like the rich fool?
- In what ways am I like the rich fool in this parable?
- What is Jesus urging his followers to do instead?
- What would this look like in my life?
- What steps or practices can I implement this week to help me not have my possessions--possess me!