

# BURIED BY BUSY

## Buried By Busy - Week Two

While most of us feel busier than ever— increasingly letting the most important things in life slip by in the periphery while we perform the rote tasks that comprise our daily grind— it's also true that we live during a unique period of history in which an unprecedented number of people are able to devote more time and resources than ever before to satisfying their appetites for fun, leisure, and entertainment. And yet, hardly anybody would say they've found these pursuits satisfying. So, how can we find meaning in our incredibly busy, endlessly entertaining lives? Jesus provides a counterintuitive answer in the parable of the rich fool.

### Start Talking

1. What's the best job you ever had? Why?
2. On the other hand, what's the worst job you ever had? Why?
3. Let's say you find yourself with an hour to kill in a comfortably furnished room without any electronic devices or entertainment options. But you aren't allowed to sleep. Do you feel relieved? Disturbed? Relaxed? Why?

### Looking Back

1. In what ways did you intentionally seek rest last week? If you didn't, what stopped you?
2. How did your rest affect your ability to prioritize the things that should matter most in life?
3. Were you still buried by busyness at any points of the past week? How did you respond?
4. Did you find yourself in any situations in which it was necessary to say no to something of moderate importance, in order to prioritize something of supreme importance? How did it go?

### What About You?

1. Have you ever found yourself experiencing "abundance," of time, food, resources, leisure? How did it make you feel?
2. Why do you think abundance and excess tend to simply increase our appetites, rather than satisfying them?
3. If someone offered you \$75k a year to do your dream job, or \$150k a year on the condition that you could never perform any work ever again, which would you choose? Why?



4. When you think of a “meaningful life,” what all comes to mind?
5. If the endless, insatiable nature of our appetites indicates that feeding them can never lead to lasting happiness, then what *is* happiness?

### **Look It Up**

*Read the Following Passages: Luke 12: 15–21*

6. Does this passage lead you to believe that Jesus is simply opposed to the process of preparing for the future?
7. If not, then what’s really wrong with the rich man’s behavior, here?
8. Why do you think Jesus emphasizes the unexpected nature of the rich’s man’s life ending so abruptly? What implications does this have for the way we approach our day to day life?
9. Based on this passage, what do you think it really costs to pursue security, pleasure, and leisure at all costs?
10. If you had to summarize the complicated dynamic Jesus describes in this parable, how would you put it in your own words?

### **Putting It All Together**

1. If a team of outside researchers observed your entire life for the past month, what conclusions would they come to about what is most important to you? How does this make you feel?
2. At the end of your life, who do you want your time to have been *for*? What changes does this require of you in the present?
3. What are you using your surplus of time on now? What will this ultimately yield by the end of your life?
4. Can you think of any more redemptive ways you could spend your surplus? What are they?
5. What are three things you can do this week to reorient yourself out of the habit of pursuing leisure and security at all cost?
6. Who will you enlist to keep you accountable when it comes to how you are allocating your time and energy?

