

Reflecting on
“The Poor Rich Man Who Couldn’t Rest”
Luke 12:13-34 | February 11, 2024

1) **Read Luke 12:1-13.** In these verses, Jesus touches on several of the themes we have previously studied in our series on the parables, including eternity (i.e., heaven and hell), forgiveness, and Jesus’ identity as the Son of Man. Jesus’ teaching on these weighty matters is interrupted when someone in the crowd asks Jesus to, “tell [his] brother to divide the inheritance with [him].” How does this inquirer resemble the type of person Jesus warns against in verses 4-12?

2) **Read Luke 12:15-21.** What would you say life is for? How does your answer compare to what Jesus teaches in this passage?*

3) **Read Luke 12:25-28.** Of the trials we will likely face as we follow Jesus, which concerns you the most? Does it worry you? How does Jesus expect you to respond to this worry?*

4) **Read Acts 4:36-37, 10:4, and 16:14.** The early church benefitted greatly from those with financial wealth. Indeed, God has used the rich to bless His people throughout history. What are some differences between the positive examples of wealthy people in the Bible and the Foolish Farmer Jesus describes in Luke 12:16-21?

5) **Read Luke 12:7, 24, 27-31.** Poverty is a real problem in our world and even our community. How might you respond to someone who reads these verses and protests that she is without proper food and clothing?

6) **Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 Timothy 4:8;**

3 John 2 and consider the examples of Daniel, Samson (positively), and Eglon (negatively). Scripture seems to promote physical health and encourages followers of Christ to pray for those who are sick (e.g., James 5:14-15). Certainly, Jesus healed many with illnesses and injuries. How can we balance this testimony of Scripture with Christ's words in Luke 12:25-31? In short, how should the kingdom of God influence our prayers?