

Biblical Summary: Luke 16:19–31

Jesus tells the parable of the rich man and Lazarus to challenge cultural assumptions about wealth, blessing, and righteousness. The story contrasts worldly comfort with eternal destiny, exposing the danger of apathy, religious formalism, and self-reliance. Ultimately, the parable calls us to respond to God's revealed truth with humility and obedience. The central theme is this: *true blessing is not found in comfort or heritage, but in a dependent relationship with God through Christ.*

Ice Breakers

Option 1: If you suddenly inherited a massive fortune, what's one frivolous thing you'd buy for fun?

Option 2: Share a time you were caught off guard by someone's kindness or unexpected generosity.

Scripture Reading: Luke 16:19–31

Ask someone to read the passage aloud. Then discuss:

1. What did you like, not like, or find confusing?
 2. What does this teach you about God, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit?
 3. What does this teach you about man?
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Key Sermon Tie-In Question

Matt emphasized the danger of apathy and comfort as barriers to compassion. Jesus calls us to see and respond to the needs at our own “gates.”

Question: Who might be at your gate today that you've overlooked? How could you respond differently this week?

Application Questions

1. In what ways can you invest your time, resources, or influence to make an eternal impact where you live, work, and play?
2. What does choosing “relationship over religion” look like in your daily routines?
3. How can you point your “five brothers” (family, coworkers, friends) toward the truth of the Gospel this week?