

## Connect Group Discussion Guide – 692/2024

### Kingdom Stories Week 2 – Luke 12:13-21

**Video Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvR0S5fB8AzraGYts4eQfg> (Posted on Monday)

**Audio Only:** On Spotify or Apple Podcasts: Connection Point Podcast

#### Highlights

- Parables uncover the Kingdom and character of God in a way we struggle to see naturally.
  - We are called to be Kingdom people in a world that isn't Kingdom minded.
- Parables are an invitation to meditate on the words of Jesus and to be formed as we listen and wrestle with new concepts.
  - Stories stick!
- Parables teach us to stay curious.
- **Luke 12:13** In this culture the firstborn son received twice the inheritance of the other sons. With 2 brothers, the older would've received 2/3 and the younger would've received 1/3. So one of two situations is happening:
  - The older brother is holding on to all of it, and not splitting the inheritance like he should.
  - Or the younger brother is wanting 50/50 instead of 67/33.
  - **In either case, a brother wants something that he's not entitled to.**
- **Luke 12:14-15** Jesus is saying, "you don't appoint me judge, God the Father has already."
  - This verse is the moral of the story, before the story was told.
  - Greed = covetous To covet is to desire something that isn't yours
  - Coveting can lead to break all the other commandments, so watch out!
  - Life's purpose is not to end up with an abundance of "stuff" or wealth.
- **Luke 12:16-17** Note this man is already rich
  - The ground provided – he probably didn't do anything special that year
    - **God created the abundant harvest.**
    - What kind of rich man has no place to store his crops?
- **Luke 12:18** He DOES have a place. He has barns.
  - The rich man was dissatisfied with what he had.
  - Would you ever be dissatisfied with what YOU have?
  - **We are all the rich man in this parable! Can you see yourself that way as you listen to the story, even though you may not have thought so before?**
- **Luke 12:19** The rich man saw his abundance as an opportunity to bless himself.
  - He saw the abundance as God giving him an early retirement.
  - **When God creates abundance, it's for His glory, not ours.**
- **Luke 12:20** You're going to die tomorrow – for what? You had your chance to pour into others and you chose yourself.
- **Luke 12:21** What does it mean to be rich toward God?
  - **People over possessions**
    - God doesn't care about your 401K, he cares about people.
  - **Giving over getting**
    - Love requires giving (**John 3:16**). You have to give of yourself.
    - When we change our mindset to be more giving, we look more like Jesus.
  - **Eternal over temporal**
    - Be more concerned about eternity over what you have here on earth.
    - The things that are temporary are hevel – vapor.

**Car Conversation**

- Can you think of a time you've given something away to show kindness to others?
- Who is someone God is calling you to be more generous to?

**Bottom Line**

- When we love others, are generous in rhythm, and keep our eyes on eternity, we are rich toward God.