

**Leadership Tip!**

Encourage discussion about the Bible. It can handle any debut that you can throw at it. It has for the last 2000 years.

**ETERNITY**

What is it Like?

***Read Luke 16:19-31***

**STARTER QUESTIONS:**

What do you think; Is Luke 16:19-31 a parable or a narrative, and what difference would it make?

*“Parable - a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.”*

**MAIN IDEA:**

When we read the Bible, it is important to note when something is different than the other text. Often when this occurs it is meant to highlight the importance of the text and that the text has specific application.

Look at the following parables:

Prodigal son – Luke 16:1-8

Rich fool- Luke 12:16-21

Master and his servants – Luke 17:7-10

Or any other parable you would like.

Luke 16:19-31 differs from these other texts in three ways.

1. Jesus uses a name of a person; \_\_\_\_\_
2. Jesus uses names of places; \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
3. Jesus uses details in the events as it was happening.

Jesus told parables in a way so that only those who really wanted to know the truth would get it. Here in Luke 16:19-31, Jesus relayed a narrative so that everyone who heard it would get it. There is no missing the point that Jesus is making. Eternity is coming for us all, what we do in this life will matter in the next life.

So, who in your life needs to get it? Who do you know that needs to hear what Jesus is saying?

Write their names here:

Take a few minutes reread Luke 16:19-31 and as you read, replace the people's names above for that rich man, and then for Lazarus.

After you have finished, come back together and discuss how it made you feel as you replaced those names.

## **FINAL THOUGHTS:**

People often have a problem talking about Jesus when it comes to people we know well. There often is a feeling that the discussion would be awkward and uncomfortable. The fact of the matter is that most who know you well, would value what you have to say. Coastal makes it easy to start those conversations with a comfortable setting and easy invites to come hear what God has to say. Now is a perfect time to plant the seed in them to come for Easter service. Most people would welcome the invitation.

“The way you store up treasure in heaven is by investing in getting people there.”

***Rick Warren***

**ETERNITY**  
What is it Like?  
March 18, 2018

13% of all Jesus' teaching are on Hell and Judgment

1/2 of the parables that Jesus told are around the topic of judgment and Hell.

**Fact 1:** Hell is a real place and people are currently there and will continue to go there.

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men,  
who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.  
Romans 1:18 (ESV)

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but  
the wrath of God remains on him.  
John 3:36 (ESV)

Gehenna – strongest biblical word for Hell.

**What is Hell Like?**

“There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

Luke 16:19-31 (ESV)

- 1) Hell is physically agonizing
- 2) In Hell you are intellectually active
- 3) In Hell there is emotional anguish

**What about Heaven?**

**Fact 2:** Heaven is a real place and people are currently there and will continue to go there.

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.”

1 Corinthians 2:9 (NIV)

You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Psalms 16:11 (NIV)

### **What we do know:**

They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun <sup>[a]</sup>beat down on them, nor any heat;  
Revelation 7:16 (NASB)

He will wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain. All of that has gone forever.”

Revelation 21:4 (TLB)

### **What we will do in Heaven:**

#### 1) Rest

*“Blessed are those who die in the Lord..., they are blessed indeed, for they will rest from all their toils and trials; for their good deeds follow them!”*

Rev 14:13 (NLT)

#### 2) Reunite

King David: *“I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.”*

2 Sam 12:23 (KJV)

#### 3) Worship

*“I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language... And they fell face down before the throne and worshiped God. They said, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength belong to our God forever and forever. Amen!”*

Rev 7:9-12 (NLT)

**Fact 3:** The poor man's Hell was Lazarus' Heaven. For those that believe in Christ, this is as close to Hell as you will ever get. For those that deny Christ this is as close to heaven you will ever get.