

**Series: the god of Money
“The Rich Fool”
Luke 12:16 - 21**

Big Idea – Foolish people live for things.

Jesus story about the rich fool.

1. Beware of Success

He was proud of his “success” – vs. 16

“what should I do? I...my...I

He forgot he was only a steward – “...my crops”

A Steward is “Someone who is responsible for another person’s property.”

He failed to see what the harvest proved

Not that he was a better man, but that God had been kind and gracious to him.

He did not “get it” - that wealth does not equal worth

Luke 12:15 Then he said, “Beware! Don’t be greedy for what you don’t have. Real life is not measured by how much we own.”

2. Beware of Self – assurance – vs. 18, 19

Luke 12:18 So he said, ‘I know! I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I’ll have room enough to store everything.

He thought only of himself, not God

The man in the parable had “I” trouble. (Personal pronouns are used here 13 times).

He was proud, rather than humble

He saw himself as an owner, not a steward

3. Beware of Self – security – vs. 18, 19

More “stuff” can create worry, not peace

Jesus followed this story with a sermon on worry

Luke 12:22 “Then turning to his disciples, Jesus said, “So I tell you, don’t worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food to eat or clothes to wear. For life consists of far more than food and clothing.

He taught there is no security in things

Matthew 6:19 Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where they can be eaten by moths and get rusty, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where they will never become moth-eaten or rusty and where they will be safe from thieves.

4. Beware of Self – satisfaction – vs. 19

Luke 12: 19 And I’ll sit back and say to myself, My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!’

Self-focused ownership instead of God focused stewardship is the wrong focus.

Peace based on things not God’s will, is a false peace.

God’s will is that we invest in eternal things.

As stewards, we’re answerable to the Owner not for our enjoyment of His riches, but our investment. We must invest in things eternal.

God called this man a “fool” and said he was going to die and lose his souls and his “things”

Fools say there is no God. Psalm 14:1

Fools make a mock of sin. Proverbs 14:9

Fools lose their souls in an eternal, fiery hell. Luke 12:20

Conclusion: **Jesus’ teaching is that our # 1 priority as stewards is to be “rich toward God.”**

2 Corinthians 8:9 “You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. You know that Christ was rich, but for you he became poor so that by his becoming poor you might become rich.”