

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Gaining While Losing” Luke 12:13-21, 31-34 June 3/4

Getting Started

The brevity of life in contrast to eternal life challenges the very value system of success and significance that our society has constructed. To pursue the pleasure of riches to only be enjoyed by yourself at the expense of everyone else contradicts the very purpose of your existence. To gain and not give, guarantees that someone will get what you have guarded when you are gone, thus not allowing you to enjoy the gift of giving.

“He is no fool
who gives what he cannot keep
to gain what he cannot lose”
– Jim Elliott, missionary and martyr

Have you ever heard of a family that fought over money, or an inheritance? Why did they do it, and how did it affect their relationships?

If you haven't, what famous celebrities have you seen whose families have gone through these kinds of ordeals? (possible answer: Michael Jackson) see also: <https://www.aol.com/article/2011/06/06/the-10-most-infamous-family-inheritance-feuds/19952346/>

Going Deeper

I. THE DECEPTION OF GAINING: “YOU CAN KEEP IT”

A. The Casualness of Covetousness: (Luke 12:15)

Ø Message of Warning: “Take care and be on your GUARD”

Ø Message of Watchfulness: “ALL covetousness”

Read 1 Timothy 6:9-10. Why are we warned against greed?

B. The Persuasiveness of Possessions: (Luke 12:15)

- ∅ Defines Worth: “one’s life does not consist IN THE”
- ∅ Drives Wealth: “ABUNDANCE of his possessions”

Why do you think so many people ‘keep score’ and derive their value and self-esteem from their possessions?

II. THE DELIGHT IN LOSING: “YOU WILL ENJOY IT”

A. The Call to Contentment: (Luke 12:31)

- ∅ Message of Warning: “seek His kingdom”
- ∅ Message of Watchfulness: “these things will be added to you”

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8. What helps us to be content? What should we remember to keep us humble?

B. The Peace of Preservation: (Luke 12:32-34)

- ∅ Defines Worth: “Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom (32)”
- ∅ Drives Wealth: “with a treasure in the heavens (33)”

It appears that we have a lot of things backward. Our culture tells us to get all we can now, but God tells us to give all we can now. Do you want the temporary kingdom of earth, or the eternal kingdom of heaven?

Take Away: Look back to Luke 12:16-21

We are not hesitant to tell God what we need, therefore, why are we so hesitant to ask God what we need to do with the excess?

Living a life of Greed is a failure to ask two major questions:

- § “Why do I have so much?”
- § “Why has God given me more than I need?”

Take a moment to reflect on these two questions and then share your answers with your group. Ask them to hold you accountable to any decisions or convictions God is impressing you to take.

If you had to summarize in one idea what God is impressing on you from this message, what would it be?

Group Prayer Requests

Pray for our CBC children and students as they go off to camp this week and next week, that God will speak to their hearts and draw many to salvation and significant decisions.