

Title: “Gaining while Losing”

Text: Luke 12:13-21, 31-34

Target: 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 at the expense of everyone else to only be enjoyed by yourself 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

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

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

- **Message of Warning:** “*Take care and be on your **GUARD**”*
- **Message of Watchfulness:** “***ALL** covetousness”*

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

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

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)”*

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

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?”

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?