

SERMON: A Generous People
SERIES: Who We Are
SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

January 28, 2018

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE:

Luke 12:13-21.

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶ And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷ and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' ¹⁸ And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" ²⁰ But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. The Dangerous Deception of Money.
- II. Being Rich Toward God.
- III. Our Motivation for Generosity.

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Jesus tells us to be on guard against covetousness or greed. How greedy are you? In what ways is covetousness deceptive and dangerous (see also Ecclesiastes 5:10)?
2. Look at verse 15. Jesus says, "one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Pastor Mark said, "Jesus didn't come to give you the thing that defines your life, he came to be your life." Talk about this idea with your group. Have you seen Christ define your life rather than your money (or anything else that defines your life)?
3. Re-read verse 20. Why is the man in the parable a fool? How was he blinded to his own motivations?
4. Re-read verse 21. Being "rich toward God" means using your earthly treasure to show that God is your ultimate treasure. What would it look like for you to be rich toward God?
5. How does the gospel of grace motivate us to be generous (see 2 Corinthians 8:9)?

Pray: Ask God for greater generosity for you and for our church. Praise God for his great generosity in sending his son for us.