

## "Confronting Greed"

April 22, 2018



### THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Luke 12:13-15, Luke 12:16-21,  
Deuteronomy 6:4-12, Colossians 3:1-17,  
1 Chronicles 29:11; Matthew 25:14-30,

#### DAY 1

##### [Read Luke 12:13-15](#)

Jesus says to "be on guard" against all kinds of greed.

- **Why is this so important for him to mention?**
- **What do the words, "A person's life does not consist in the abundance of their possessions" mean to you?**
- **Do you ever find your identity and value in what you own? In what ways?**

#### DAY 2

##### [Read Luke 12:16-21](#)

- **Why do you think the landowner did not give God the credit for the large crop but instead took the credit for himself?**
- **When you come into plenty, who do you give credit to? Is God the first one on your mind or is it more about you? Why? Why not?**

- **How is it wrong to want to have enough? Better yet, when is enough, enough?**
- **Some people who read this story get angry that the man wasn't given the opportunity to retire and enjoy his life. How do you feel about that?**
- **What more could the man have done to honor God with his abundance?**

We need to get it straight as Christians...it is not wrong to have wealth. The sin comes when we do not use our wealth for God's glory.

- **How are you using what you have for the glory of God? Why do you fret over being generous?**

## **DAY 3**

[Read Deuteronomy 6:4-12](#)

Moses reflects on the importance of loving God.

- **Describe how you live into the words of Verse 5?**
- **Why is it important to ensure that the next generations to come understand the importance of loving God?**

In Verses 10-12, Moses gives a reminder about who is responsible for the abundance found for the people.

- **Why is it so hard for us to remember who is responsible for what we have? How can we refrain from the temptation to believe it is all because of us?**

## **DAY 4**

[Read Colossians 3:1-17](#)

- **What does it mean to live a "holy life?"**

Paul notes as Christians we are to set our minds on things above.

- **Why do you feel our greed makes us remain "earthly" people rather than heavenly beings?**
- **Greed is listed as a sin. What is the antithesis of greed?**
- **How can you transform yourself away from greed and into a giver?**
- **When you read the Bible and begin to understand the love of God, how can you justify greed? What are you willing to do to rid yourself of greed?**
- **Pastor Bob shared a quote from the writing of Mignon McLaughlin which says, in The Second Neurotic's Notebook, "*Your money or your life'. We know what to do when a burglar makes this demand of us, but not when God does.*" Explain your response.**

## **DAY 5**

**[Read 1 Chronicles 29:11; Matthew 25:14-30](#)**

Having money isn't a bad thing. It's not knowing why you have money that causes problems. If we're going to leave it all behind when we die, then one thing's abundantly clear: We're not owners, but managers.

- **How does the Bible define the difference between an owner and a manager? Who is the owner? If we are managers, what are we to do with what we have been given?**
- **Why is it so hard for us to acknowledge God as the owner of all things?**

- **In the parable of the talents, what is happening in the story? Why was the one who buried his talents punished? What does this say about greed?**
- **What steps will you take today to begin to move away from a life of greed and into a life with God by honoring God with your abundance over yourself?**

## DAY 6

Take some time today to pray. Thank God for your abundant blessings and ask him for guidance in understanding that you are the manager, not the owner of these blessings. Think of how you can use this abundance for God's glory.

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