

SOUTH
SHORE
community church

GROWTH
giving back





Treasures:

- Dickens – A Christmas Carol
- “Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner!”
- Knowing the grip that money gets on our heart, Jesus speaks of it often.



Treasures:

- Luke 12:13-15, “Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.’ Jesus replied, ‘Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?’ Then he said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’”



Treasures:

- The man may have a legitimate beef, but we don't know the backstory. But, Jesus asks the man a vital question, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" (Not my job or critical question?)
- The Father appointed Jesus judge - & his judgment is from heaven. (Greed)



Treasures:

- Jesus judgment comes to all – not just to this man. He addresses us, too. “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” (the pull of money – feel good; security; measurement) It constantly pulls us toward the temporal, so Jesus tells us a story to make us pause.



Treasures:

- Luke 12:16-21, “And he told them this parable: ‘The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I’ll say to myself,



Treasures:

- Luke 12:16-21, 'You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."



Treasures:

- This is a rich man. It is easy for us to not see ourselves in this parable. But Jesus started out with a warning to us to be on our guard against greed. He applied this to us. (Americans & wealth)
- “It’s my money” – Who appointed you judge?



Treasures:

- The rich man has a good year, and he decides to plan for a rainy day, for retirement. The problem with this parable is that the guy's reasoning seems pretty reasonable to us as Americans. (I've worked hard; I deserve to enjoy the fruits of my labor; some poor don't work; I need to plan for my future)



Treasures:

- The guy opts for expanding what he has. Build bigger. Save more. The Judge speaks: “God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”



Treasures:

- The first question is the key: Who appointed me judge? God did. And to God alone will we give an account – for our time, for our talents, and for our treasures.
- God wants us to be rich toward Him. Are you being rich toward God?



Treasures:

- We should be rich toward God because we love Him. He was rich toward you on the cross. Love is generous; True love is extravagant. (Ron)
- We should be rich toward God because it is a sign of trust. (tithe – test me; do we trust? John M - Man of means can't give away that much \$)



Treasures:

- We should be rich toward God because He wants to advance His Kingdom. It takes funds. He wants His people go give generously to the things that matter to Him. (zero; poverty, oppression – sex trafficking)
- Are you being rich toward God? (fries)