

## **ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION WEEK THREE: TIME'S UP!**

**Sunday October 10, 2021**

**LUKE 12:13-21**

<p><sup>13</sup> Then someone called from the crowd, “Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father’s estate with me.”</p> <p><sup>14</sup> Jesus replied, “Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?”<sup>15</sup> Then he said, “Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.”</p> <p><sup>16</sup> Then he told them a story: “A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops.<sup>17</sup> He said to himself, ‘What should I do? I don’t have room for all my crops.’<sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I know! I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I’ll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods.’<sup>19</sup> And I’ll sit back and say to myself, ‘My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!’”</p> <p><sup>20</sup> “But God said to him, ‘You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?’</p> <p><sup>21</sup> “Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God.”</p> <p>(New Living Translation)</p>	<p><sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> 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.” <sup>16</sup> And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, <sup>17</sup> and he thought to himself, What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?” <sup>18</sup> 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.’ <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”” <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”</p> <p>(English Standard Version)</p>	<p><sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’” <sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.’ <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’” <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”</p> <p>(New Revised Standard Version)</p>
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### **Discussion Questions:**

1. The individual in the story is a model businessman. He has grown his business, accumulated wealth in the process and will soon begin a capital expansion project. Why is Jesus critical of the man in the parable?
2. Jesus shares this parable in response to one man’s plea for Jesus to mediate an estate settlement. Why do you think Jesus responds, “who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?”
3. What do you think Jesus means by “every kind of greed” or “all covetousness” in verse 15?
4. Verse 20 is translated a few different ways, what does your soul is “demanded” or “required” of you mean? Do you think it references death, as they NLT suggests or might there be a different meaning or understanding? You should know, the Greek is unclear.
5. Can you have earthly treasures AND a rich relationship with God?
6. How can you use what God has richly blessed you with to advance the Kingdom of God?