

Sermon Series: Sowing for the Future: The Art of Godly Giving  
Title: A Story About Being Rich  
Text: Luke 12:13-21  
Date: July 20, 2008

1. Title Slide: Sowing for the Future: The Art of Godly Giving  
***A Story About Being Rich***  
Luke 12:13-21

2. A Story About Being Rich...

Are You Rich?

3. So being rich is bad then, right? Or is it?

*But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. (1 Timothy 6:6-10)*

- What is the Source of Wealth?
  - The world says man and hard work – a transaction
  - True source of wealth: God – a gifting lifestyle

4. The Responsibility of Being Rich

- *Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)*
- *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10)*

5. Living a life rich in God = putting others first

- *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Luke 12:34 NASB)*

6. Being Rich in God, Living a Generous Life: Something Which the Father in Christ Already has Built into Your Life

- You have been redeemed for a life of generosity
  - *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)*
- How do we access the riches of Christ? -- They are already yours
  - *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (Ephesians 1:3)*
- Set our hearts and affections on him because we have our lasting treasure secured in heaven
  - *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:19-21)*