

Valuing Our Vision series
Bigger Barns, Smaller God
Message Text: Matthew 25:14-30
June 6, 2010

What Jesus is not saying

Wealth is bad

Preparing for the future is bad

Enjoying life is bad

Rich people can't be rich toward God

Wealth makes one foolish

What Jesus is saying

Biblical stewardship of wealth makes us rich toward God.

What does it mean to be rich toward God?

The foundations of richness toward God.

- 1) Recognize wealth comes from God
- 2) Recognize the purpose of wealth
- 3) Recognize our security is in Jesus
- 4) Hold a view of the future that is centered on the kingdom of God.
- 5) Embrace God's definition of life and its pursuit

Go Deeper:

- 1) What is God's heart concerning the stewardship of wealth?
- 2) What are some reasons that people accumulate things? Explain.
- 3) Describe a person you know who you would say lives in such a way that you can tell they don't think everything is about them? Explain why you think this about them.
- 4) On a scale of 1 – 10, 10 being high regard, where would you say your regard for death and eternity rank? Explain why you rated yourself as you did.
- 5) What does it mean to be rich toward God?
- 6) Describe who you think of when you hear the phrase rich toward God? Why do you think of this person?
- 7) Of the 5 foundations of richness toward God which comes easiest for you? Which is most challenging?
- 8) Is it wrong to have things? Explain.
- 9) What would it take for you to live by the motto, enough for me, abundance for others?
- 10) How can you exercise generosity toward your neighbor this week? Will you take that step?

Next Steps:

- I have grumbling and complaining a lot lately and not thanking God for all the blessings in my life. I will take time this week and just thank Him for His many blessings.
- I have been trying to live on 100%, but now realize God and I can do more with 90% than I can ever do with 100%. I will begin to give God His portion this week.
- I realize in the eyes of the world I am rich so this week I will take another look at my wealth and ask God to show me how I can lighten the distress of the nearly 2 billion unfed, un-housed, uneducated, and un-evangelized.
- Write in your own: _____