

A Man and His Goals

“Joy verses Happiness”

April 6, 2005

Luke 12:16-21

SUMMARY:

The man in Jesus' story died before he could begin to use what was stored in his big barns. Planning for retirement is wise, but neglecting life after death is disastrous. If you accumulate wealth only to enrich yourself with no concern for helping others, you will enter eternity empty handed.

Why do we save money? To retire? To buy expensive toys? For security? Jesus challenges us to think beyond earthbound goals and to use what we have been given for God's Kingdom. Faith, service, obedience, praise, and thankfulness are the way to get rich with God and know that true joy comes from Jesus Christ.

NOTES:

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Introductory Question: Why do we work and what do we accumulate money for?

Discussion:

- What do you feel was the rich man's goal in the story?
- Was there anything wrong with his goal?
- Why is being rich toward God a better goal?

APPLICATION:

We must first recognize that we are spiritually poor and needy. We have all fallen short of what God desires. God helps those who admit their spiritual poverty. He sent Christ to die for you while you were yet a sinner. Ask God to exchange your spiritual poverty for his riches. God turns no one away. Remember: “what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul”?

Do your goals include: Bible study, prayer, praise to God, fellowship with believers in church, in your personal life? Review your life goals and pick one area on which you wish to work and bring it more in line with God's desire for His followers that you may experience true joy..

ON YOUR OWN...

Romans 3:23 Romans 5:6 Romans 10:13
Ephesians 2:4,6
Mark 8:36

Paul's letter to the Philippians