



PARABLES – The Stories Jesus Told

Jesus sometimes taught in parables because these vivid stories engage us in thought, emotion, and sensation. They impact us. They force us to go away and ponder, struggling with the meaning perhaps, feeling struck by the truthful and accurate perspective on life they offer. A parable compares something familiar to something unfamiliar. It helps us understand spiritual truth by using everyday objects and relationships. Parables compel us to discover truth, while at the same time concealing the truth from those too lazy or too stubborn to see it. To those who are honestly searching, the truth becomes clear. This series invites transformation as you discover fresh truth about Jesus, yourself, and others.

A Man knows that greed will rob him of eternal life

The Parable of the Rich Fool Luke 12:13-21

November 09, 2017
Highland Colony Men's Roundtable
www.MensTable.com

Bible Verses: Luke 12:13-21; I Chronicles 29:12; Matthew 6:33
Music: Chris Janson - Buy Me A Boat
Videos: Parable of the Rich Fool
Wall Street Movie CLIP - Greed Is Good

Resources: *Parables—The Mysteries of God's Kingdom Revealed Through the Stories Jesus Told* - John MacArthur
10 Parables of Jesus: Poking Holes in Religious Balloons - Jamie Buckingham

Jesus Told Stories

1. _____ > Luke, more than any of the biographers of Jesus, enjoyed telling the Master's stories. He was a Greek physician and was most likely a man of material wealth. It's no wonder that Luke was concerned with the proper attitude toward material things.
2. _____ > Jesus had more to say about money—that is, the medium of exchange—and our relationship to it than He had to say about anything except heaven. He also had a lot to say about money and our relationship to heaven. In fact, He said if we have a lot of money, it is especially hard to get into heaven. Most of us are trying to get both at the same time. We want to be wealthy and we want to go to heaven.
3. _____ > A crowd of people had gathered, and Jesus began by warning them about the yeast of the Pharisees (Luke 12:2,3).
4. _____ > Jesus was intentional about addressing the real issue (Luke 12:4 and 12:11-12). This parable has lots of first person possessive pronouns—"my" ... "mine" ... "myself."
5. _____ > I grew up believing "Everything I have belongs to God"—everything I have is just on loan from God. But, the Bible teaches: "Everything I have came from God—but it belongs to me. It is mine! But that very fact increases my obligation to recognize where it came from and that it is given from me to use wisely—for His glory. God is not an Indian-giver. He doesn't give and then take away. He gives. It's yours! The question is: what do you do with it? Obligations of ownership are huge! Foolishness comes when you consider you can do with it whatever you want.

JESUS CALLED THE RICH FARMER A FOOL!

1. _____ > The Rich Farmer thought that everything was given for his own pleasure. The one thought that never entered his mind was, "How much can I give away?" His whole attitude as the reverse of Kingdom thinking. It was "How much can I keep?" rather than "How much can I give away?"
2. _____ > We have them because we have been blessed by God. God has given them to us. It's okay to say that are ours, as long as we understand we are part of God and part of His body, the church.
3. _____ > The framework of this parable is thinking that the resources of God are limited. Hoarding is simply evidence of lack of faith. The Rich fool lived under the impression that the only important things in life are those you can touch and see and hear and taste. The Rich man's unhappiness, his restlessness, his dissatisfaction consumed him. He was looking for more material things while his HEART was actually thirsting for peace and happiness—the two commodities which are not for sale. He has everything money can buy. But money cannot buy friendship, companionship, nor eternal security.

THE RICH FARMER WAS UNAWARE & DISCONNECTED FROM HIS HEART!

1. _____ > Jesus pointed out that where the Rich Farmer's treasure is, there is his heart. Is your hand open, giving, or is it tightly closed around what you have?
2. _____ > 9 Characteristics:

- a) You Return Everything You Borrow
- b) You Give (Re) Gifts For No Reason
- c) You'd Rather Go Without Than Ask For Help
- d) Givers Know A lot Of People And We Love When They Meet Each Other
- e) You Love To Give Advice
- f) Selling Comes Naturally
- g) You Send Thank You Notes, Texts or Emails
- h) We Never Remind People They Owe Us
- i) Doing For Other's Feel Good

THE RICH FARMER WAS NOT GOING TO LIVE FOREVER.

1. _____ > You must develop an eternal perspective. The wise man makes investments in heaven by giving away on earth. The fool holds it for himself. Nowhere does the Bible teach that riches are evil. Just the opposite. The Bible teaches that riches, or wealth, are essentially good. See Revelation 5:12 > seven good things: power, wealth, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, and praise.
2. _____ > Riches and Honor come from God (1 Chronicles 29:12). God is the ultimate Source! Anything that originates from God must be good in itself. But none of these things come if we seek them for themselves.
3. _____ > What really counts is not how much we leave behind, but how much have we sent on before (Matthew 6:33).

ACTION: Journal This!

1. What thing bothers you more than anything else?
2. What creates anxiety for you—what worries you?
3. Are you a Giver?

Bible Verses – New Living Translation

Luke 12:13-21 ; 13 Then someone called from the crowd, "Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me." **14** Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?" **15** Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own." **16** Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. **17**He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.' **18** 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. **19** 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!"

20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?' **21**"Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

1 Chronicles 29:12 ; 12 Wealth and honor come from you alone, for you rule over everything. Power and might are in your hand, and at your discretion people are made great and given strength.

Matthew 6:33 ; 33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

"Buy Me A Boat"

Chris Hansen

I ain't rich, but I damn sure wanna be
Working like a dog all day, ain't working for me
I wish I had a rich uncle that'd kick the bucket
And that I was sitting on a pile like Warren Buffett
I know everybody says
Money can't buy happiness

But it could buy me a boat, it could buy me a truck to pull it
It could buy me a Yeti 110 iced down with some silver bullets
Yeah, and I know what they say,
Money can't buy everything
Well, maybe so,
But it could buy me a boat

They call me redneck, white trash and blue collar
But I could change all that if I had a couple million dollars
I keep hearing that money is the root of all evil
And you can't fit a camel through the eye of a needle
I'm sure that's probably true,
But it still sounds pretty cool

'Cause it could buy me a boat, it could buy me a truck to pull it
It could buy me a Yeti 110 iced down with some silver bullets
Yeah, and I know what they say,
Money can't buy everything
Well, maybe so,
But it could buy me a boat

To float down on the water with a beer...
I hear the Powerball Lotto is a-sitting' on a hundred mill...
Well, that would buy me a brand new rod and reel...

And it could buy me a boat, it could buy me a truck to pull it
It could buy me a Yeti 110 iced down with some Silver Bullets
Yeah, and I know what they say,
Money can't buy everything
Well, maybe so,
But it could buy me a boat

Yeah, and I know what they say,
Money can't buy everything
Well, maybe so,
But it could buy me a boat
It could buy me a boat.

Philip K. Hardin, M.A., M.Div.

Director of Business & Professional Outreach, Intl.
Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist & Licensed Professional Counselor
Email: phil@bpointl.org Webpage: www.bpointl.org

par • a • ble(s)

an earthly story

with a spiritual truth

PARABLES – THE STORIES JESUS TOLD

Jesus sometimes taught in parables because these vivid stories engage us in thought, emotion, and sensation. They impact us. They force us to go away and ponder, struggling with the meaning perhaps, feeling struck by the truthful and accurate perspective on life they offer. A parable compares something familiar to something unfamiliar. It helps us understand spiritual truth by using everyday objects and relationships. Parables compel us to discover truth, while at the same time concealing the truth from those too lazy or too stubborn to see it. To those who are honestly searching, the truth becomes clear. This series invites transformation as you discover fresh truth about Jesus, yourself, and others.

The Parable of the Rich Fool

Luke 12:13-21

Jesus Told Stories

1. **Tell Stories** > Luke, more than any of the biographers of Jesus, enjoyed telling the Master's stories. He was a Greek physician and was most likely a man of material wealth. It's no wonder that Luke was concerned with the proper attitude toward material things.
2. **Money** > Jesus had more to say about money—that is, the medium of exchange—and our relationship to it than He had to say about anything except heaven. He also had a lot to say about money and our relationship to heaven. In fact, He said if we have a lot of money, it is especially hard to get into heaven. Most of us are trying to get both at the same time. We want to be wealthy and we want to go to heaven.
3. **Hypocrisy** > A crowd of people had gathered, and Jesus began by warning them about the yeast of the Pharisees (Luke 12:2,3).
4. **Fear & Anxiety** > Jesus was intentional about addressing the real issue (Luke 12:4 and 12:11-12). This parable has lots of first person possessive pronouns—"my" ... "mine" ... "myself."
5. **From God and Belongs to You** > I grew up believing "Everything I have belongs to God"—everything I have is just on loan from God. But, the Bible teaches: "Everything I have came from God—but it belongs to me. It is mine! But that very fact increases my obligation to recognize where it came from and that it is given from me to use wisely—for His glory. God is not an Indian-giver. He doesn't give and then take away. He gives. It's yours! The question is: what do you do with it? Obligations of ownership are huge! Foolishness comes when you consider you can do with it whatever you want.

JESUS CALLED THE RICH FARMER A FOOL!

1. **God—center of life!** > The Rich Farmer thought that everything was given for his own pleasure. The one thought that never entered his mind was, “How much can I give away?” His whole attitude as the reverse of Kingdom thinking. It was “How much can I keep?” rather than “How much can I give away?”
2. **Material Possessions** > We have them because we have been blessed by God. God has given them to us. It’s okay to say that are ours, as long as we understand we are part of God and part of His body, the church.
3. **Worry & Anxiety** > The framework of this parable is thinking that the resources of God are limited. Hoarding is simply evidence of lack of faith. The Rich fool lived under the impression that the only important things in life are those you can touch and see and hear and taste. The Rich man’s unhappiness, his restlessness, his dissatisfaction consumed him. He was looking for more material things while his HEART was actually thirsting for peace and happiness—the two commodities which are not for sale. He has everything money can buy. But money cannot buy friendship, companionship, nor eternal security.

THE RICH FARMER WAS UNAWARE & DISCONNECTED FROM HIS HEART!

1. **Your Heart is the Issue** > Jesus pointed out that where the Rich Farmer's treasure is, there is his heart. Is your hand open, giving, or is it tightly closed around what you have?
2. **Are You a Giver** > 9 Characteristics:
 1. You Return Everything You Borrow
 2. You Give (Re) Gifts For No Reason
 3. You'd Rather Go Without Than Ask For Help
 4. Givers Know A lot Of People And We Love When They Meet Each Other
 5. You Love To Give Advice
 6. Selling Comes Naturally
 7. You Send Thank You Notes, Texts or Emails
 8. We Never Remind People They Owe Us
 9. Doing For Other's Feel Good

THE RICH FARMER WAS NOT GOING TO LIVE FOREVER.

1. **ALL WILL DIE** > You must develop an eternal perspective. The wise man makes investments in heaven by giving away on earth. The fool holds it for himself. Nowhere does the Bible teach that riches are evil. Just the opposite. The Bible teaches that riches, or wealth, are essentially good. See Revelation 5:12 > seven good things: power, wealth, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, and praise.
2. **From God** > Riches and Honor come from God (I Chronicles 29:12). God is the ultimate Source! Anything that originates from God must be good in itself. But none of these things come if we seek them for themselves.
3. **Kingdom Thinking** > What really counts is not how much we leave behind, but how much have we sent on before (Matthew 6:33).

ACTION: Journal This!

1. What thing bothers you more than anything else?
2. What creates anxiety for you—what worries you?
3. Are you a Giver?