

Generosity - Live to Give: True Riches

Hope Church November 17 and 18, 2018

Read: *Luke 12:13-21; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15*

Introduction: Jesus Christ gave His life by way of death on a cross to provide all of humanity the gift of salvation. Because He gave His life for us, we are to give our whole life back to Him in return. If this idea is the starting point of the Christian faith, why do so many Christians find it difficult to live a life defined by generosity? On average, Christians give 3% of their income. What keeps Christians from being the generous community we're called to be?

Discuss:

1. Take a moment to describe the characteristics of a generous person. What would his or her habits with money look like? Who would you consider a generous person and why? Would you consider yourself a generous person? Why or why not? What keep you from being more generous than you currently are?
2. From *Luke 12:13-21*
In response to the man's plea, Jesus tells a parable about a rich man. What is the man's problem? His solution? Why is he a fool?
3. In your own words, what is the main point of this parable?
4. Advertising is dedicated to convincing us to think verse 15 is wrong. What differences in lifestyle result from believing Jesus verses most advertising?
5. In planning an investment portfolio to "become rich toward God" what will you do this week? Next year?
6. From *2 Corinthians 8:1-15*
When reading these verses, what stood out to you about the Macedonian church's attitude toward giving? Describe the different giving principles Paul is teaching in this passage.

Action and Application: In *Acts 20:35*, Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." How will you live that truth out in your life in terms of time, talents and treasures?

This coming week I will be praying for:
