

The Myth of More
Chris Calvert, Executive Pastor
July 20, 2014

Luke 12:13-21

A man comes to Jesus to solve a family conflict (vs. 13-14)
Jesus turns the request into a lesson how to handle our money and possessions.

How to handle our possessions:

1. Guard yourself against materialism. (vs. 15)

Unless we actively protect ourselves we will become materialistic.

Why?

- Materialism tells us that our possessions make us important.
- Materialism tells us possessions will make us secure.
- Materialism tells us more/newer possessions will make us happy.

2. Realize that your possessions are not all about you. (vs. 16-19)

We are simply stewards of what God has given to us to use for His purposes.

3. Look for opportunities to be generous with your money and possessions now. (vs. 20)

The cure for materialism is sacrificial giving.

- Return the First 10% back to God.
- Give to other needs and causes as God directs.

4. Live with less so you can invest in eternal priorities. (vs. 21)

- Your relationship with God, family and friends.
- Service to God and others.
- Helping others find and follow Jesus.

- I am committing to follow Jesus for the first time today.
- I will to buy a brand new hardcover book for Ernie Pyle Elementary. (drop off at Connection Center next Sunday)
- This week I will help a friend with a financial need.
- I am committing to give the first 10% to the work of God.



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Bridge LifeGroups are **currently on summer break**. We will continue to provide questions in simplified format each week that can be used for personal devotions and/or discussion starters for LifeGroups choosing to meet for a portion of the summer break.

1. **READ Luke 12:1-12.** Jesus first warns about the Pharisees. What is “hypocrisy”? How is their hypocrisy like yeast?
2. What is Jesus saying about secretive acts in verses 2-3? How might the people listening (and we today) feel about personal secrets being revealed?

3. Next Jesus teaches about fear (verses 4-5). According to Jesus, who is the only one worthy of fear? Why? What do verses 6-7 add about God’s character, authority, and care?

4. What might cause a person to deny Jesus before others (verse 9)?

5. Who are the rulers and authorities in your daily life? Describe a situation you are in right now in which you must acknowledge Jesus before others. How might you handle it?

Close in prayer as the Holy Spirit leads you.

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday’s message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups**! Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the “Messages” link.