

07-31-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Life is not had by the possessions one has. Life and possessions are a gift of God to be used to advance God’s agenda of care and compassion, precisely for those who lack resources to provide for themselves.”

- *Richard P. Carlson*



Luke 12: 13-21

Questions for Reflection —

- Where/how in your life do issues of faith and money intersect? For what do you work and save? What would it look like for you to invest your resources—time, money, talent—in God’s kin-dom in the here and now? How can we as a congregation better use our physical and monetary resources (such as our building and our endowment) to promote God’s agenda of care and compassion, to be a blessing in our church’s neighborhood?

- In what way are financial concerns a distraction from your focus on God? What are the anxieties and worries you carry in regards to your material resources? What will help you release those concerns to God’s providential care? How do you know when what you have is sufficient? What does it look like for you to live a life of gratitude towards God and extravagant generosity towards others with the resources you do have?

- What does it mean for you to be rich toward God? What are your spiritual treasures? How do you share those treasures with others? What does mean for us as a congregation to be a people who are rich toward God? What do you identify as our greatest intangible resources? What is the spiritual richness we have to offer to a hurting world?

Daily Household Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and in your service find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.