

Sermon Guide

The King is Here: Rich Toward God

What does it mean to be rich toward God?

On Sunday, Jake Vigil taught us through Jesus' words in Luke 12v13-21.

In this passage, Jesus tells a parable and warns against building up earthly treasure without being rich toward God. Some of the ways we get rich toward God are by crucifying the flesh, daily Bible reading, a lifestyle of prayer, fasting, generosity, and gratitude that leads to contentment.

Praying that this message leads us to repentance and deeper contentment in Jesus, that we might be able to sow into eternity now by being rich towards God with our lives.

Go Deeper.

Our desire is that every person would be empowered to have a deep and intimate relationship with God. We want people to not just hear a word on a Sunday, but get activated in whatever the Holy Spirit is doing throughout the week. The guide is a tool for you to dive deeper into what God is doing in you and through you as an ambassador of the Kingdom.

You can work through these activations and questions on your own or in a group setting. If you are doing them in a group, take turns leading. After each activation, take time to pray into whatever the Holy Spirit is speaking. It is also encouraged to have a journal and Bible with you.

For each activation focus will be key. We become like what we give our attention to, and one of the best ways to worship is to focus. Often we will ask that you close your eyes, if this helps you focus, then great, if it's something else that helps you focus, then do that.

Before each activation, take a moment to be still before the Lord. These are not exercises to rush through or items on a to-do list to check off. They are invitations to commune with God and to go deeper. Turn your attention toward Him and invite Him into this time.

Activation #1

Before reading the text from this past Sunday, yield your heart to Holy Spirit and invite Him to reveal Jesus.

Jesus, would you come and be our Lord today. We surrender our desires and ways of living to you as King. Help us to love You more and hold nothing back from You.

Sit in “receiving mode” for a few minutes. What is He saying? How is He guiding?

Now read Luke 12:15.

Journal out these questions and your answers. Take time and pause and press into prayer when the Lord highlights something in your heart or mind.

- Do you live a life on-guard from greed, covetousness, and idolatry?
- Is there any life changes you can make, in this season, to be more watchful?
- Are you finding fullness of life/need in current possessions you own or in someone?
- How can Jesus fill you with His satisfaction and life in that area more?

Activation #2

You were made for Someone (Jesus), not something (creation, earthly possessions).

Simply take time and journal/pray through what it means to make Jesus your highest treasure.

For example:

- Stir up fresh love for the person of Jesus and write/pray to Him.
- Thank Him for all that He has lavished upon you spiritually and in material.
- Give Him new devotion and lordship over your life. “Re sign up” in ways that you may have disregarded in this current season.
- Give space for writing or speaking out-loud repentance to Jesus. Allow His body and blood to cleanse you and make you whole, then cling to a new or old promise from Him.
- Write out a prayer denouncing all love and evil desire for earthly things, such as money, possessions, or earthy gain. Ask Him to take away selfishness and give you the gift of contentment.

Activation #3

In our given text, we are called to leave behind foolish thinking and instead be “rich toward God” (Living and making decisions in such a way as to maximize Jesus as your treasure)

Jacob gave us a list of some practical ways to be rich toward God:

- Daily Bible Reading
- Lifestyle of Prayer
- Fasting
- Contentment/Generosity

Meditate on each of these practices.

For each one...

- How is Jesus calling you into deeper discipleship?
- What can you sacrifice or subtract to see more of these in your life?
- What are new rhythms you can add to your life to get richer toward God?

Specifically in “Fasting”... as we start the season of Lent, ask Jesus if He wants you to fast. (Start with no food). What would that look like? Skipping a meal and reading/praying? Only dinner?

Zero pressure, just ask Jesus and see if He is calling you into any new obedience.

Lastly, with or without fasting from food what can you consecrate unto the Lord in this season?

Some examples:

Any or all unnecessary device screen time?

Netflix?... shows or movies at night to read your Bible instead?

Online or in person shopping until Easter?

Sugar or alcohol?

Any luxury of life that can give you more space and desire to seek Jesus and grow in your longing for Him.