

The GAP: "Building a Bigger Barn"

November 11, 2007

Key Scriptures

Luke 18:18-27; Luke 12:16-21

Start It

1. Read the story of the rich young ruler in Luke 18:18-27
2. Read the story of the rich fool in Luke 12:16-21

Study It

1. Why is it so hard for the rich (you and me) to enter the kingdom of God?
2. In what areas of your life are you simply building a bigger barn?
3. In what areas of your life are you building the kingdom of God?

Action Steps

1. Read the following quote from John Piper:
"Nothing makes God more supreme and more central than when people are utterly persuaded that nothing – not money or prestige or leisure or family or job or health or sports or toys or friends is going to bring satisfaction to their aching hearts besides God."
2. Reflect on your life and how you pursue pleasure. Would your family say that your treasure is in heaven, or would they say your treasure is in your car, house, image, spouse, etc?
3. In the areas where it applies, pray this prayer this week and ask God to help you deal with the "Greed in the Gap," and treasure Him above all else:

Forgive me that I settle for such small pleasures that I do not set my heart on higher joys. I do not come hungry enough for You; I fill myself on the fast food of this world and it robs me of the love and joy of dining with you, my King.

Memorize It

1 Timothy 6:18 & 19

Command them (those who are rich) to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share...so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.