



WOODLAND HEIGHTS

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Live Generously: The ABC's of a Kingdom Focused Life Part #3 – Choices Matter: The Power of Everyday Decisions

Small Group Discussion Guide on Luke 21:13-21, 32-34

Woodland Heights Christian Church Core Value Connection

This sermon aligns with the core value of **Biblical Worldview** at Woodland Heights Christian Church. We believe that it is critical to live your life with a worldview that Christ-centered and built upon the foundation of the Word of God. This will lead, guide, and direct you in all seasons of your life for the glory of God.

This third part of the series Live Generously: The ABC's of a Kingdom Focused Life anchors us in a Biblical worldview that sees all of life – time, talent, and treasure – through the lens of God's Kingdom rather than earthly success. We believe that every Christian is called to live with a focus fixed "on things above" (Colossians 3:2), allowing daily decisions to be guided by the truth of Scripture rather than the pull of our culture. In "Choices Matter," we learn that our everyday decisions are not small; they ripple into eternity and either deepen the Mindset of Me or develop a Kingdom Mindset that is rich toward God.

Section 1 – ENCOUNTER

Observing God's Word

Imagine Jesus surrounded by a massive crowd – people pressing in, almost trampling one another, eager to hear the words of life from the Son of God. In the middle of that holy moment, one man cuts through the noise, not to ask about salvation or the kingdom, but to get Jesus to settle a family inheritance dispute. Instead of acting as referee, Jesus becomes a heart surgeon, exposing the danger of greed and the Mindset of Me, and calling us to a different way of living.

Start your study by anchoring yourself in Scripture. Read Luke 21:13-21, 32-34 as a group, family, or individual, letting God's Word sink in.

Core Questions

- What stands out to you about the man's request in verse 13 and Jesus' answer in verses 14-15? What does each reveal about their priorities?
- In the parable (vv. 16-21), what words or phrases show the rich man's focus on himself rather than God or others? What do you learn from God's verdict in verse 20?
- In verses 32-34, what images or promises reveal God's heart toward His people ("little flock," "Father's good pleasure," "treasure in the heavens")? How do these verses connect your treasure and your heart?

- If you had to summarize these verses in one sentence, what would you say they teach about everyday choices, possessions, and the Kingdom of God?

Section 2 – EXPLORE

In this sermon, we saw that living generously is not just about what we give but about the choices we make every day with our time, talent, and treasure. The Big Idea is: A Kingdom Focused Life Makes Kingdom Shaped Choices. Knowing this, let's unpack the three steps from the message – with questions that connect each to our hearts and habits. Discuss these as a group or reflect on them personally.

Step #1 – Recognize the Lie: Your Worth Isn't Measured by What's in Your Wallet (Luke 12:13–15)

Jesus exposes the man's "Mindset of Me" and warns the crowd: "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." The sermon reminded us that many today are quietly wrapped around the lie that "my life equals my stuff," measuring themselves by income, inheritance, or image instead of by who they belong to, what they love, and how they love.

Core Questions

- The sermon explained that the word "guard" in verse 15 carries the idea of "avoid or flee from," and that covetousness is a strong desire to acquire more, no matter the impact on others. *Where do you see this kind of greed showing up in our culture?*
- Scripture teaches that a Christian's life is measured by who you belong to (1 Corinthians 6:19–20), what you love, and how you love (Mark 12:30). *Which of these three "measuring lines" shine brightest in your life right now?*
- *If you deeply believed that life is not measured by what you own, how would that reshape your attitude toward career, retirement, lifestyle, or "keeping up" with others this year?*

Step #2 – Priorities Matter: Include God in All Your Plans and Your Life Will Produce Eternity-Shaping Results (Luke 12:16–21)

In Jesus' parable, the land of a rich man produces plentifully, a clear reminder that every "bumper crop" is ultimately God's gift, not our genius. Yet the man's repeated "I...my...my barns...my goods" reveals a life planned entirely around self, with no thought of God, eternity, or the needs of others, until God calls his soul to account.

Core Questions

- *What do the rich man's questions and answers ("What shall I do?" "I will tear down my barns...") reveal about his priorities and assumptions about the future?*
- The sermon noted that his problem was not planning or saving but planning without God – leaving out eternity and the needs of others. *Where are you most prone to make plans as if you are the owner and time is guaranteed?*
- James 4:14 reminds us that our life is "a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes." *How does that truth challenge the way you approach long-term dreams, daily schedules, and "someday" generosity?*

Step#3 – Choose to Pursue God’s Will God’s Way and Reap the Right Reward (Luke 12:32–34)

Jesus knows that shifting from the Mindset of Me to a Kingdom Mindset can feel risky, especially when it touches our money, time, and comfort. So He begins with comfort: “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom,” then calls us to generous obedience – investing in moneybags that do not grow old and treasure that cannot be stolen.

Core Questions

- In verse 32, what do you learn about God’s heart from the words “little flock,” “your Father,” and “good pleasure to give you the kingdom”? How can these truths calm your fears about living more generously?
- The sermon highlighted John the Baptist’s Kingdom motto: “God must become greater and I must become less.” (John 3:30) What would it look like for this motto to guide one specific area – your spending, serving, or scheduling – this month?
- If you examined how you currently use your time, talent, and treasure, which side would you say is winning – and what is one “course correction” you can make this week?

Section 3 – EMBRACE

Applying God’s Word

Go deeper into the Word of God by applying what you’ve learned to your life today. Reflect on these action steps and discuss how you can live out the truths from Luke 12:13–21, 32–34 as part of the Live Generously series.

Examine Your Everyday Decisions

Take time this week to honestly evaluate how your daily choices reveal your heart. Identify one area where the Mindset of Me has crept in – perhaps in spending, scheduling, entertainment, or constant comparison.

- Write down one specific step you will take to choose a Kingdom Mindset instead (for example, pausing to pray before purchases, setting limits on “me time,” or intentionally serving someone else first).

Invite God Into Your Plans

Prayerfully walk through your calendar, goals, and financial plans for the coming month and say out loud, “Lord, this belongs to You” over each major area – time, work, family, money, gifts.

- Choose one decision you are currently facing and deliberately include God. Follow through on what He shows you, even if it means adjusting your plans.

Practice Kingdom-Shaped Generosity

Ask the Lord, “How do You want me to use Your time, talent, and treasure to make a Kingdom impact this week?” Then listen for specific nudges – a person to help, a need to meet, a ministry to support, a conversation to start.

- Commit to one intentional act of generosity—financial, relational, or practical—for someone who cannot repay you, and share with your group how this step affected your faith and your view of God’s provision.

Memorize and Reflect

Memorize the sermon’s memory verse, Luke 12:15b (NLT): “Life is not measured by how much you own.”

- Throughout the week, repeat this verse when you feel pressure to accumulate, compare, or cling tightly to what you have, asking God to fix your focus on eternal treasure and Kingdom-shaped choices.

Closing Challenge and Prayer

Pray for one another to live out the three convictions of a Kingdom-focused life—recognizing the lie of the Mindset of Me, including God in every plan, and courageously pursuing His will His way—so that your daily decisions reflect the generosity and Lordship of Christ.

- Which area do you sense the Lord highlighting most for you right now—your attitude toward possessions, your priorities in planning, or your willingness to trust Him with generous obedience?