

Children's Ministry 4^{thru} K

September 20th || Luke 12:16-21

Main Point: You can't take things with you when you die.

Read Luke 12:16-21 and ask:

1. What did the rich man do when he had more crops than barns?
2. What was his solution?
3. Why didn't the man get to enjoy his crop?
4. How should we respond toward God?

Walk the children again through the parable. When the rich man discovers he has a great crop, he decides to build bigger barns to store the crops and just sit back and enjoy them. Unfortunately, he didn't consider the fact that when he dies, he can't take any of those things with him. He chose to find his pleasure in stuff, but that stuff can't help him know Jesus or have eternal life.

MOTH, RUST, THIEVES

In Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus says: *"¹⁹Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; ²¹for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* We all enjoy things. Ask the kids to name some of their favorite toys. What can happen to these things? (Get old, break, someone could steal it.) Help show the kids that no matter what, things get old and destroyed. And even if something doesn't break, you have to be concerned if someone will steal it from you. (Show the kids the rusty nails compared to the nice ones).

The things we have are a gift from God to us. He likes for us to be able to enjoy the gifts He's given. But sometimes, we start to enjoy those things more than we enjoy God. This is foolish, for the stuff we have is only temporary. Either it will break, be lost or get stolen, or we'll enjoy it here, but after we die, we can't take it with us. God, instead, gives us the chance to even use what He has given us for His glory. We should use the things we've been given to serve Jesus and should be thankful to Him for His gifts!

Ask the kids: 1. What am I tempted to love more than Jesus?

Driving it home...



³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (1 Peter 1:3-5)

Unlike possessions on earth, God's inheritance to us, through the work of Jesus Christ, can never fade, be destroyed or taken away. God is protecting over our rewards we receive in heaven one day, insured to the day we receive it by Jesus' work on the cross and resurrection for us!