

Sunday, July 31, 2022
8 Pentecost, Year C

Luke 12:13-21

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God. **Glory to You, O Lord***

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

OPEN

- What did you like to collect as a kid? Now? What collection were (are) you most proud of?

DIG

- In response to the man's plea, Jesus tells a parable. What is the man's problem? His solution? Why is he a fool?
- In your own words, what is the punch line of this parable?

REFLECT

- When have you been like the man in this story?
- Advertising is dedicated to making us think verse 15 is wrong> What differences in lifestyle result from believing Jesus versus the advertisements?
- In planning an investment portfolio to become "rich towards God," what will you do this week? This year?