

TALK IT OVER

Rich Toward God

BOTTOM LINE

Life is not measured by what we accumulate but by who we become and what we steward for God.

CONVERSATION STARTER

USA.: 250 years, 50 states. What is your favorite place in the U.S. you have visited? Where would you most like to visit?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily:
newpointe.org/thedaily
- [How to Embrace Biblical Stewardship for a Fulfilling Life](#) by John Bevere (18 min.)

VERSES AND QUOTES

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'" Then he said, "This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'" But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?" This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God. Luke 12:13-21 NIV

"No one thinks they are greedy ... Greed is deceptive. It hides behind acceptable language."

"Success without stewardship becomes selfishness."

"Our world runs on comparison, and comparison causes discontent."

– Quotes by Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

As we celebrate 250 years, economically we are the most prosperous nation in the world. How is that a blessing? How is it a danger? Nations and individuals have the same issue: We are easily consumed with "more." It's not just money – it's all resources. Where can "more" become your focus too easily. Jesus said "more" is a terrible god – how have you seen that to be true? Why is greed so difficult to recognize in ourselves? Greed is not a possession issue. It is a trust issue. Discuss. The danger of prosperity is not possessions. It is self-sufficiency. How do you recognize that in a nation? In yourself? When Jesus called the man a fool, He didn't mean "unintelligent" – he meant "spiritually blind." How do you recognize spiritual blindness? Define steward. Are you a better steward than you were a year ago? If so, how and why? Being rich toward God means being grateful, living generously, holding possessions loosely, prioritizing eternal investments, and trusting God daily. What does each of those elements look like for you? How are you doing? What needs attention?

ACTION STEP

I will deepen my stewardship starting this week by _____