



## Wednesday November 11, 2015

*Then someone called from the crowd, “Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father’s estate with me.” Jesus replied, “Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?”<sup>15</sup> Then he said, “Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.”*

*Then he told them a story: “A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. He said to himself, ‘What should I do? I don’t have room for all my crops.’ Then he said, ‘I know! I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I’ll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods. And I’ll sit back and say to myself, “My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!”’*

*“But God said to him, ‘You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?’ “Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God.” **Luke 12-13-21 (NLT)***

A wealthy man in the Bible faced a problem many people would love to have: What do you do when you have more stuff than space to store it? The man had a phenomenal crop, more than he or his family could possibly use. But where would he keep all the excess? This rich man decided the perfect solution was to build bigger barns to safeguard his wealth. In an instant, the man’s seemingly unshakable empire came crashing down, with a reprimand from God: “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 12:20).

Here was a man who was filled with abundance, but as greedy as they come. It was because of his greed that this man met his death. You see, robbing God—the giver of life—will only end in robbing ourselves of true life. We all want to be prepared for the future, but how do you balance wise saving with generosity?

### Reflect:

1. What is one way to know when you’re being greedy?

2. How does generosity safeguard us against greed?
3. What can you give away today?

**Pray:**

Jesus, You have given me so much! Protect my heart from greed and show me how I can be generous today.