The Parable Of The Rich Fool Sun Am 01/16/22 KZ Lesson

# Memory Verse: Hebrews 13:16 NKJV

# 16But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Target Thought: Sharing Is Caring

Luke 12:13-21 NKJV

13Then one from the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

14But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?” 15And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”

16Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. 17And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ 18So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. 19And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, *and* be merry.” ’ 20But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’

21“So *is* he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

Does anyone here want to know how to catch a monkey? Well, I can tell you a story about how they catch a monkey in some places of the world. First, they take a gourd, cut a small hole in it, then put some rice inside. Next, they tie the gourds down securely and wait for the monkey.

The monkeys are so greedy that they fall for the gourd trick every time. The monkey sticks his paw into the gourd to get the rice. He grabs a handful—but then he can’t get his hand out of the gourd. His closed fist won’t go through the small hole.

The monkey is so greedy that he won’t let go of the handful of rice. He just waits there with his greedy fist wrapped around the rice until the men come and capture him.

Well, you’ve got the moral to this story: Don’t be greedy and selfish or you may make a “monkey” of yourself.

In our Bible lesson today a man came to Jesus and said, "Please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me."

Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge to decide such things as that?" Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life isn't measured by how much you own."

Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a some rich land that produced fine crops. He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have enough room in my barn to hold all my crops." Then he said to himself, "I know, I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I will have enough for all my crops and I will sit back and say to myself, "Take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!"

This man was so greedy, not only was his stuff his god, he did not care about anyone or anything else. He was totally dependent on his stuff. God does not want anything to be more important to us than Him.

"But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?'"

"This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves, but does not have the riches of God."

There are a lot of things that we can share, let’s name some. Money, clothes, toys, time, advice, resources, prayer, …. When we share not only are we showing that we care about others it also shows that we are confident that God will provide all that we will never do without. We don’t have to be afraid to share or that we will run out of what we need. God loves us and wants us to love others. We know that sharing is caring.

Hear what God's Word says. Don't let selfishness and greed make a monkey out of you.

Dear Father, help us to be content with the blessings which you so generously give us and help us to be on guard against selfishness and greed. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

1. Why does God not want us to be greedy?
2. What are some things we can share?
3. Can we be confident that God will always provide for us?