This Study Guide is based on a sermon by Dr. Joshua Mack. You will find the link to the sermon here.

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Luke 12:13-21

Shona

13Mumwe pakati pavazhinji akati kwaari, "Mudzidzisi, udzai mukoma wangu kuti agovane nhaka neni." 14Jesu akapindura akati, "Iwe murume, ndianiko akandigadza kuti ndive mutongi kana mugoveri pakati penyu?" 15Ipapo akati kwavari, "Chenjerai! Muchenjerere marudzi ose okuchiva; upenyu hwomunhu hahuzi pazvizhinji zhinji zvaanazvo." 16Uye akavaudza mufananidzo uyu akati, "Ivhu romumwe mupfumi rakabereka zvibereko zvakanaka. 17Akafunga mumwoyo make akati, 'Ndichaita seiko? Handina nzvimbo yokuchengetera zviyo zvangu.' 18"Ipapo akati, 'Hezvino zvandichaita. Ndichaputsa matura angu ndigovaka makuru, uye imomo ndimo mandichaunganidza zviyo zvangu nezvinhu zvangu. 19Uye ndichati kumweya wangu, "Iwe une zvinhu zvakawanda zvakanaka zvawakaunganidzirwa makore mazhinji. Zorora, udye, unwe uye ufare."' 20"Asi Mwari akati kwaari, 'Iwe benzi, usiku huno chaihwo upenyu hwako huchatorwa kubva kwauri. Zvino ndianiko achatora zvawanga wazvigadzirira?'21"Ndizvo zvichaitika kuna ani zvake anozviunganidzira pfuma asi asina kupfuma kuna Mwari."

Zulu

130munye wesixuku wathi kuye: "Mfundisi, shono kumfowethu ukuba abelane nami ifa." 14Kepha wathi kuye: "Mngane, ubani ongimise ngibe ngumahluleli noma umahlukanisi phezu kwenu na?" 151 Thim. 6:7Wayesethi kubo: "Bhekani, nixwaye ukuhaha konke, ngokuba ukuphila komuntu akumi ngobuningi bempahla yakhe." 16Wabalandisa umfanekiso, wathi: "Izwe lomuntu othile onothileyo lathela kahle. 17Wazindla phakathi kwakhe, wathi: 'Ngizakwenzani, lokhu ngingenandawo engingabuthela kuyo ukudla kwami, na?' 18"Wayesethi: 'Ngizakwenza lokhu: ngizakudiliza izinqolobane zami, ngakhe ezinkulu, ngibuthele khona ukudla kwami konke nempahla yami. 19Bese ngithi kuwo umphefumulo wami: Mphefumulo, unempahla eningi ebekelelwe iminyaka emmingi; phumula, udle, uphuze, ujabule.' 20"Kepha uNkulunkulu wathi kuye: 'Wena siwula, ngalobu busuku umphefumulo wakho uzakubizwa kuwe; pho-ke, izinto ozilungisileyo ziyakuba ngezikabani na?' 21"Kunjalo kozibekelela ingcebo enganothile kuNkulunkulu."

Swahili

13Mtu mmoja katika mkutano akamwambia, Mwalimu, mwambie ndugu yangu anigawie urithi wetu. 14Mdo 7:27Akamwambia, Mtu wewe, ni nani aliyeniweka mimi kuwa mwamuzi au mgawanyi juu yenu? 151 Tim 6:9,10Akawaambia, Angalieni, jilindeni na choyo, maana uzima wa mtu haumo katika wingi wa vitu vyake alivyo navyo. 16Akawaambia mithali,

akisema, Shamba la mtu mmoja tajiri lilikuwa limezaa sana; 17akaanza kuwaza moyoni mwake, akisema, Nifanyeje? Maana sina pa kuyaweka akiba mavuno yangu. 18Akasema, Nitafanya hivi; nitazivunja ghala zangu, nijenge nyingine kubwa zaidi, na humo nitaweka nafaka yangu yote na vitu vyangu. 19Kisha, nitajiambia, Ee nafsi yangu, una vitu vyema vingi ulivyojiwekea akiba kwa miaka mingi; pumzika basi, ule, unywe, ufurahi. 20Lakini Mungu akamwambia, Mpumbavu wewe, usiku huu wa leo wanataka roho yako! Na vitu ulivyojiwekea tayari vitakuwa vya nani? 21Mt 6:20Ndivyo alivyo mtu ajiwekeaye nafsi yake akiba, asijitajirishe kwa Mungu.

Afrikaans

13Iemand uit die menigte sê toe vir Jesus: "Meneer, sê vir my broer hy moet die erfenis met my deel." 14Maar Hy antwoord hom: "Man, wie het My as regter of deler vir julle aangestel?" 15Toe sê Hy vir hulle: "Pas op en wees op julle hoede vir elke vorm van gierigheid, want 'n mens se lewe is nie afhanklik van die oorvloed van sy besittings nie." 16Toe vertel Hy hulle 'n gelykenis: "'n Ryk man se grond het goed gedra. 17Hy het toe by homself gedink: wat moet ek doen? Ek het nie plek waar ek my oes kan opgaar nie. 18Toe besluit hy: dit sal ek doen: Ek sal my skure afbreek en groter bou. Daarin sal ek al my graan en my ander goed opgaar. 19Dan sal ek vir myself sê: 'Mens, jy het baie goed wat weggesit is vir baie jare. Hou op met werk: eet, drink en leef lekker.' 20Maar God het vir hom gesê: 'Jou dwaas. Vannag nog sal jou lewe van jou opgeëis word, en wie kry dan alles wat jy bymekaargemaak het?' 21So gaan dit met hom wat vir homself skatte vergader en nie ryk is by God nie."

Sermon Summary:

The Word of God is very powerful. And yet, in spite of how powerful the Bible is, there are many who hear the Bible preached and do not benefit from it. Jesus identifies two threats in Luke chapter 12 that can keep people from being transformed by His Word. The first threat is hypocrisy. The second threat is materialism. In these verses Jesus warns us about the danger of materialism and reminds us why it is such a serious threat to our lives spiritually.

Basic Discussion Questions:

1. Can you imagine getting a chance to hear Jesus speak in person? That would be such an amazing moment. But, even after having been given that great of a privilege, there were people who heard Jesus speak and completely missed the point. We find two examples of that in the chapters we have been studying recently. First there was the Pharisee back in Luke 11:37,38 and now there is a certain man in the crowd here in Luke 12:13. What was the proof the Pharisee missed the point? What tells us this man in Luke 12 was missing the point as well?

- 2. Now, let's think about what he asks Jesus exactly. What question does he ask Jesus? Help us understand this question. What is the issue behind it? Would that normally be something you would be concerned about as well?
- 3. Seeing how normal this question seems to be is part of what makes Jesus' response surprising. What does Jesus ask the man back in verse 14? What do you think about Jesus' response? What is unusual about this response?
- 4. Whenever Jesus responds differently than we might have responded, we should look at what he says even more carefully. Jesus is acting like this man's question is not really appropriate. So, what is it exactly that makes this man's question at this point so inappropriate?
- 5. Here he has one chance to speak to God and he asks about a piece of property. His priorities are completely out of whack. That's why instead of answering his request, Jesus gives us a warning. What is the warning he gives us?
- 6. What does it mean to take care and be on your guard against something?
- 7. The reason we have to take care and be on our guard against covetousness is because it can so blind us that we end up completely missing what is most important, just like this person in the crowd was doing, at that particular moment as he was listening to Jesus.
- 8. What is covetousness?
- 9. I personally think this is a very dangerous sin because it seems so completely normal and reasonable. What excuses do you think this man might have given for talking to Jesus about this issue? What excuses do people often give today for being covetous?
- 10. Look at the following verses and explain how they highlight the danger of greed:

Romans 1:28,29 Colossians 3:5,6 1 Timothy 6:9-11

- 11. Coming back to Luke 12:15, what reason does Jesus give here to guard against covetousness? What do you think the statement he gives means? Do you believe what Jesus says? What are some reasons/proofs you might give as to why Jesus is correct?
- 12. In order to emphasize the foolishness of acting like life consisted of the abundance of one's possessions, Jesus tells a story about a certain

- rich man. What was happening to this rich man? What was he doing? What would most people say about this rich man? What did God say about him? What was this rich man doing wrong?
- 13. Obviously, for the most part, our study of this passage has been negative so far, and that's because this passage is a warning. It's like a big old sign that says, watch out! But, let's get a little more positive now. How can we watch out? If this rich man is an example of a fool, what would have been the wise response in his particular situation?
- 14. What are some ways you struggle with what we've been studying? Are there any ways God is convicting you or encouraging you as a result of what we've been talking about? How can we help each other more in this area?