

EPIC FAIL



“The Rich Fool: Self Storage”

EPIC FAIL

Small Group Plan

CAUGHT IN THE PRONOUNS

Luke 12:16:21

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ ¹⁸ “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. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’ ²⁰ “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?’ ²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...

- Count the personal pronouns in the story above.
- What is the goal of this man?
- What is he missing?

LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...

REVOLUTIONIZE THE MEANING OF SUCCESS

Luke 12:13-15

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ 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.”

- What is Jesus saying, in this story, about the meaning of success?
- Describe how Jesus’ last statement clashes with our own culture.

RECOGNIZE
THE COST OF MONEY ADDICTION
1 Timothy 6:9-10

⁹ *Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.*

- How would you describe the addictive power of wealth? How does it work?
- How is the “love of money” the root or beginning of many evils?
- List some of the evils, and describe how they are connected to the love of money.

RETURN
TO THE SOURCE
1 Timothy 6:17a

¹⁷ *Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything.*

- Why is wealth “so uncertain”?
- How does wealth bring “arrogance”?
- When God “richly provides” what is different about His wealth?

REJOICE
IN YOUR BLESSINGS
1 Timothy 6:17b

¹⁷ *... put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.*

- How does God intend for wealth to be enjoyed?
- What is the difference between enjoying wealth and being a lover of money?

RELEASE
YOUR FINANCIAL BLESSINGS
1 Timothy 6:18

¹⁸ *Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.*

- How would you describe a “generous” person?
- Why are some people rich in good deeds while others are not?

USE IT / APPLY IT ...

- There is no doubt that, as Americans, we are the rich of the world.
- How can we protect ourselves from the addictive side of wealth?
- What do you think of the fact that 99% of Storage Facility companies are in America?
- List and discuss some of the opportunities here at Prestoncrest for generous good deeds.
- In addition to money what else can be given to God's ministry here?
- Close by thanking God for the blessings of wealth we enjoy in this country. And ask for His protection from the dangers of wealth.