



FOOL'S GOLD

THE ISSUE:

LUKE 12:1

1 In the meantime, when so many thousands of the people had gathered together that they were trampling one another, he began to say to his disciples...

LUKE 12:41

41 (Peter) "Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?"

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." 14 But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?"

THE INSTRUCTION:

FOUR BIBLICAL CATEGORIES FOR WEALTH:

1. Righteous Rich	2. Unrighteous Rich
3. Righteous Poor	4. Unrighteous Poor

THE PARABLE OF THE RICH FOOL (LUKE 12:15-22)

1. THE UNRIGHTEOUS RICH ARE COVETOUS, NOT CONTENT

15 And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."



2. THE UNRIGHTEOUS RICH ARE RICH TOWARD THEMSELVES

16 And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, 17 and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' 18 And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'"

3. THE UNRIGHTEOUS RICH LIVE FOR TOMORROW TODAY

20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' 21 So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

SMALL GROUP/REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Jesus talk so much about money? Why do Christians often avoid talking about money?
2. The man who interrupts Jesus is distracted by his own financial situation (12:13-14). What financial issues occupy my thoughts and energies? How do these keep me from listening to Jesus?
3. In what areas of my life does greed (covetousness) manifest itself? (House, cars, investments, clothes, hobbies, entertainment, etc.). How can I cultivate contentment in these areas?
4. Statistically, those who make more money are less likely to tithe – why is this?
5. In what ways have I not been rich toward God? In what tangible ways can I begin to implement this concept in my own life?