



## A Generous Life

*When Barns Get Too Big* (Luke 12:13-21)

By Pastor David Hillis, 19 October 2014

**BIG IDEA:** The only way to fully experience life as God intends and combat the subtle effects of greed in us is to continue to choose to live a generous life.

- The subtlety of greed can make its way into our lives, regardless of how much or how little we actually have.

Luke 12:33 encourages us to be generous with the time, talents and treasures God gave us, because doing so lays up treasures for us in Heaven.

Luke 12:35 Jesus says that it is not just about being thoughtful and generous with what we give, but also in how we are in an attitude, always ready to serve.

### Greed:

1. keeps us from enjoying an incredible life as a generous person.
2. keeps us from ultimately having a say in life in how those resources will be used.
3. keeps us from laying up treasures in Heaven that will survive us and last long after we leave this earth.
4. keeps us from having our heart get in the wrong place, worshipping God's gifts (our time, talents, possessions) over God. Greed is an attitude that Colossians 3:5 describes as idolatry, because whether we admit it or not, we are putting God's gifts above God Himself.

### What has your heart?

- In Luke 12:34, Jesus says, "where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be."
- The way you give and even the way you serve always follows your heart.
- *What has your heart?* Is your life these days about building bigger barns? About finding ways to use your time, your resources on yourself? Or on others?

"Watch out!" Jesus says, "Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not come from his abundance."

### Reflect on these questions and answer them this week:

*What barriers prevent you from living generously with your time? Your talents? Your treasures?*

*What is the next thing you can do to overcome those obstacles?*