

5. If Jesus is primarily addressing the underlying problem of materialism (i.e., believing that life consists of the abundance of our possessions), how does the parable he tells address this way of looking at life (this small story)?

SERIES: Frame: How the Stories of Jesus Frame our Reality

SERMON 1: "What Life Consists Of"

TEXT: Luke 12:13-34

DATE: January 9/10, 2016

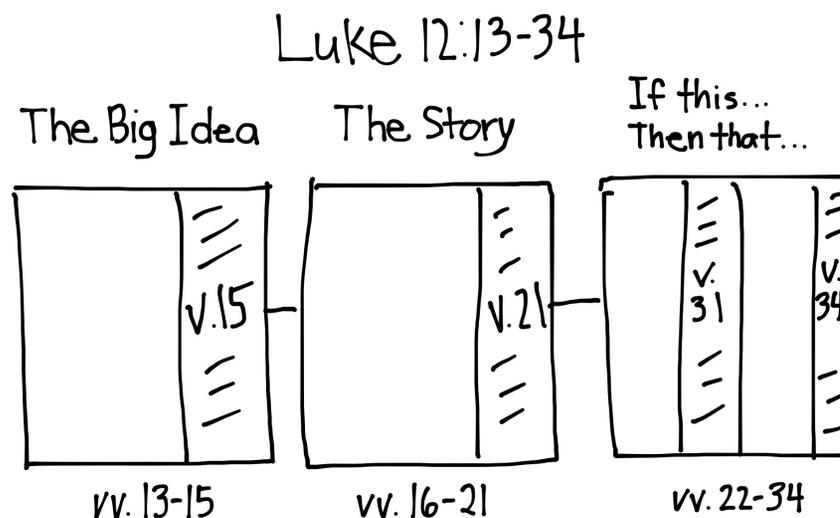
Our lives are shaped by the _____ we believe we are in.

Jesus told stories to help us understand the big story we are in, so that our whole lives—our passions, our work, our relationships, our likes and dislikes, our very breathes—are _____ that story.

6. How do the key verses in this passage relate to a materialistic mindset (Luke 12:21,31,34)?

7. Jesus knows that giving and sacrificing and building treasure in heaven (living now in terms of eternity) is hard to do. He is aware of the fact that what he calls for can feel demanding. He doesn't want people who give and live sacrificially simply out of obligation. God wants cheerful givers. So what does he say in this passage to compel us to live generously and be willing to sacrifice for the kingdom (see Luke 12:22-34)?

8. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?



Jesus graciously wants your life—your everyday, making money, working hard, making sure you don't get cheated life—to be _____ in a new way and lived within the BIG story, the story of God.

The reason why Jesus talks about what he's talking about is so that we won't waste our lives, our money, our time, and our energy doing all the things we do within the wrong frame, the wrong story.

So, what IS he talking about? (v. 15)? (Clue: It's something deeper than greed.)

Life is about _____.

Life is _____.

When you _____ now in light of eternity and for the sake of Jesus' mission, you can expect to find treasure in heaven. There is eternal reward in giving.

What story are you living in, judging by your attitudes and actions?

Greed is only a _____ of a poorer story.

If you are stingy and controlled by greed, Jesus' liberating and life-giving message is to live your life in light of _____.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Luke 12:13-34

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. The catalyst for everything Jesus says in this passage is a question asked by someone in the crowd (Luke 12:13). Jesus' answer is terse (Luke 12:14). Why?
3. The story this man thinks he's living in is way too small, if he thinks Jesus' time should be spent judging financial disputes. There are many other people who can help him settle his dispute. But Jesus is focused on inaugurating the kingdom of God—healing, preaching, casting out demons. The bigger story Jesus is living is the story we are also supposed to be living. What are the evidences in your life that your story is much too small?
4. What is the problem Jesus identifies (see verse 15)? Don't just think in terms of the symptom Jesus talks about (i.e., greed), but the underlying worldview (the story).