

STUDY NOTES – JANUARY 14, 2018
Sermon Series: “Money Matters”

Luke 12

Our culture is infested with a terrible disease. Simply put, it’s the sickness of greed or “materialism”. Today, and the next two Sundays, we’ll be studying a Biblical view of money and possessions. Our goal is to be healed from the disease of greed.

1. The prevalence of the sickness (Vs. 13-14)

Luke 12:13–14 (ESV) — 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?”

- Life lesson: Learn to identify the influence of materialism.

2. The sickness behind the symptom (V. 15)

Luke 12:15 (ESV) — 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.”

- Life lesson: Evaluate your priorities to see if you are imbalanced toward your possessions.

Practical ways to help find balance:

1. Tithe first.
2. Give something away to someone in need.
3. Stop comparing yourself to what others have.
4. Downsize to fit your need. (Car, house, etc.)
5. Go on a mission trip to a third world country.
6. Thank God and be content in what you have.
7. Reject the lure of commercial advertising.

3. The seriousness of the sickness (V. 15)

Luke 12:15 (ESV) — 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.”

- Life lesson: Be vigilant against possessions robbing you of real life.

S.A.L.T. Group questions

- Have someone read Sunday's passage: Luke 12:13-15
 - What truths stand out to you?
- 1. The prevalence of the sickness
 - What are some of the characteristics of materialism today?
 - How do we become trapped by materialism?
- 2. The sickness behind the symptom
 - Identify people's priorities that are based on materialism.
 - Do you have any personal priorities that are imbalanced towards your possessions?
 - Read the practical ways to help find balance in the study notes. What are some areas you need to make changes in?
- 3. The seriousness of the sickness
 - How can we, as Christians, be vigilant about materialism?
 - How can we balance the blessing of being able to enjoy possessions and becoming consumed by our possessions?

S.A.L.T. groups ("Sharing And Learning Together") are Camano Chapel's adult small group ministry. To learn more, you can go online at camanochapel.org and click on the ministry tab.

For further study - A more detailed copy of this sermon can be found at our Chapel website link:

www.thebibleexpedition.wordpress.com

(Posted by 4 P.M. today)

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: Luke 12