



A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Series Theme: Stories of Jesus
Text for the Week: Luke 12:13-21
Story for the Week: The Rich Fool
Message for the Week: A Generous Community

Week Eight
Sunday, August 7

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week?
Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What is the best gift that you ever gave to someone?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Luke 12:13-21](#) out loud.

[Clicking this link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, take note of, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

Are you choosing what matters? How do you know?

Do you think it is harder to live when you have a lot or a little? Why?

If your house caught on fire and your family and pets were safe, what three possessions would you try and save from the fire?

How do you define greed?

In planning an investment portfolio to become “rich toward God,” what will you do / include?

In your own words, what is the punch line of this parable?

“Try It!”

Practice Generosity! Find a way this week to give or share something of yours with someone else.

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

Father in Heaven, choosing what matters is all too often the hardest thing to do. Free us from all forms of greed. Help us to hold stuff loosely and to hold on to you tightly. Enable us to be rich toward God. Enable us to be rich in what does matter. Just as you God are so generous with us, help us to be generous with those around us. In Jesus name we pray. AMEN

Missional/Spiritual Practice for the Month: Blessing Students and Teachers

During the month of August, you are encouraged to bless the students and teachers in your community. What students and teachers live in your community? What public and private schools (elementary, middle, high school, college/university, home school) are in your community? How could you bless and encourage them as they begin a new school year?