



Christmas Future

WARM UP

What is the best Christmas gift you ever received? What made it so special?

SET IT UP

The Christmas season can bring out the best in us, but, it can also bring out a side we didn't even know was there. Rather than spreading good tidings of great joy, we join the ranks of consumerism. As a society, we will spend billions of dollars this holiday. But what if there were more to this season than swapping stuff? What if we shifted our focus from stockpiling to serving? Let's talk about it.

CHAT IT UP

1. What is the number one item on your Christmas list this year?
2. **The stuff we long for often over promises and under delivers.** Describe a time when you experienced buyer's remorse.
3. Nothing has the potential to strong-arm our hearts like greed. Let's check out a story Jesus shared to illustrate this reality. **Read Luke 12:13-20.**
4. **Greed is the selfish pursuit of more stuff.** How did the rich man in this story live up to this definition? (Hint: He decided to keep accumulating more wealth for his sole benefit).
5. **Read Luke 12:21.** As Jesus wraps up the story, he gives a sobering conclusion. What was the result of the rich man's pursuit of happiness? (Hint: There was no benefit. Since he selfishly hoarded all his fortune, it went to waste when he died).
6. A selfish life is a wasted life. **How does Jesus communicate this truth?** (Hint: Verse 15 tells us that life doesn't consist in an abundance of possessions.)
7. Let's spend a few minutes getting practical. What's one step can you take this Christmas to move from away greed to towards generosity? How can we help you take that next step?

WRAP IT UP

Happiness is found in Someone, not something. Jesus offers the promise of an abundant and eternal life. However, most people are focused on what is immediate, that they never give much thought to what is ultimate. This Christmas, find peace and satisfaction in the Savior who exchanged His perfection for our mess.

LEADER TIPS

- This year we will be home for Christmas! We won't be at church from December 25-January 2. However, you can join us for a special New Year's message on TV! Find out how to have your best year ever by tuning in to channels: 16, 22, and 28 at 11:30am on January 1st. Consider getting together for brunch with your group to watch it together!