



CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit
H. – Hear & Heed
I. – Imagine & Insight
F. – Focus & Function
T. – Totally Transformed

S.H.I.F.T.

Age: 13 yrs. & Over

August 8

Sing with me:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5waffTnMH6g>

Give thanks to the Holy one.

Memory verse Luke 12: 15 (NIV)

15 Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

Scripture: Luke 12: 13 – 21

Read with me

The Parable of the Rich Fool

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

14 Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” 15 Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

16 And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. 17 He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

18 “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. 19 And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

20 “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

21 “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

Let’s talk about it.

In the lesson today, Jesus taught a parable about a very rich man who forgot something. Jesus always liked to tell stories. Remember, we talked about these stories before. These stories, we said, are called parables. A parable is defined as *a short story that teaches a moral or spiritual lesson especially*. Another definition gives a parable as *an earthly story with a heavenly meaning*. Jesus taught the people lessons by talking about something they knew, like farming for example, then He would apply the lesson to something spiritual.

In this story, Jesus told of a man who farmed land and his land grew a great amount of fruit. We don't know what kind of fruit it was, but there was a lot of it and the rich man put it in barns. Maybe it was coconuts, or even mangoes. But then, mangoes will spoil if he stored them in a barn for too long. Can we think of fruits or vegetables which will keep for a long time? God had blessed the man's land so much that the man began thinking about what he would do with all the fruit he would harvest. He thought to himself, "What will I do? I have so much fruit I don't have enough room for it all".

The man decided he should build larger storage. He thought he will tear down all of his barns and build much larger barns and then put all of the fruit inside. He thought to himself that he had so much fruit which could be stored up for many years, so he will eat, drink, and be merry. But the man was forgetting something. Maybe the man could have shared his bounty with his neighbours. That is what most of us do. When we have an excess of crops, we share with our friends and neighbours, don't we? We even sell the excess. This man did not even consider thanking God for his good fortune. Maybe it was a good year of rain, and the monkeys did not bother him.

So how did God deal with the situation? Jesus completed the story by saying not only did the man forget to thank God, but he also forgot God has control of our life. God said to the rich man, "You fool! Tonight, your soul is required of you! Then who will own all those things you have stored up?"

Jesus did not end there. He gave the people a warning. Jesus told the people anyone who stores up treasures on this earth and is not rich towards God is just like that rich fool. Jesus does not want us to be like the rich man who forgot God. He wants us to always put God first in our lives, then God would always give us everything we need. (Matthew 6:12). Not that we should not have wealth, but remember in Exodus 20:3, we must not let this wealth become more important than God.

That means that we must always remember to "Put God first" That's right! It means to always do spiritual things before we do the earthly things. First, we go to Bible class, then we can play

soccer or go to the movies. It means whatever we do in life – get a job, play sports, go to the Olympics, we need to put God above those things.

Think about it. Clearly, this man was missing the point. Jesus wanted the people to understand not only did the man forget to thank God, he could have shared his crops. We know fruit don't last very long. I am sure they would have all spoiled before long. So building new barns may not have been a good idea. Jesus warns us not to selfish. There is a saying "crave all, get none at all", meaning "excessive greed puts one in danger of losing everything." Do not let greed consume you, to the point of losing everything.

Let us pray

In your prayer time, I want you to thank God that He has given you enough stuff to enjoy and to use to glorify Him. Pray that you would never value material possessions more than God and you will always remember to thank God for all you have.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GarwrKY3MXQ>

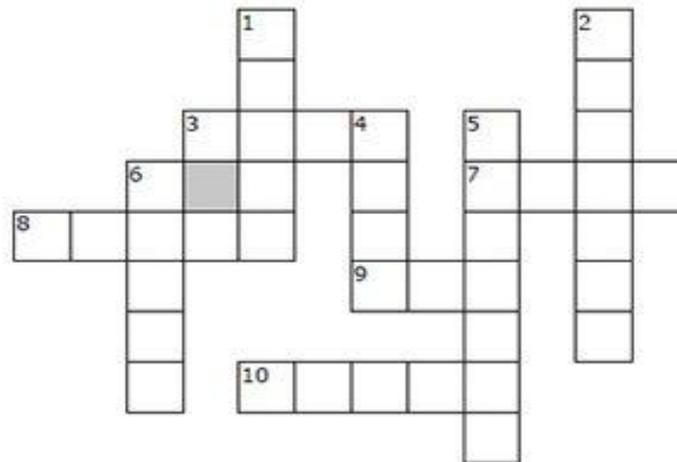
Find out more about parables by watching this simple video.

ACTIVITY

The Parable of the Rich Fool

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Luke 12:15 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 12:13-21 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. One who acts unwisely
7. Having great material wealth
8. Large farm buildings used for storing farm products and sheltering livestock
9. To take food into the body through the mouth
10. An official who decides cases brought before a court of law

DOWN

1. Agricultural products, such as grain, vegetables, or fruit
2. A person who educates or gives instruction
4. The period of time between birth and death
5. A male having the same parent or parents as another
6. To take liquid into the mouth and swallow

rich	judge	crops	brother	barns
life	eat	fool	teacher	drink