

The Parable of the Rich Fool

Two statements made about Australian society...

"We are leading more crowded lives, but slowly losing our sense of connection with each other."

"Contemporary trends towards affluence, mobility and anonymity are fuelling a trend towards interpersonal relationships that are transient, conditional and mediated by large institutions."

Luke 12:13-21

The Parable of the Rich Fool

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

14Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?"

15Then 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."

16And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. 17He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

Luke 12:13-21

The Parable of the Rich Fool

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 all my grain and my goods.'

19And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things 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 anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

Background – Listening with Jewish Ears

1. A Rabbi would often act as an arbitrator for a family dispute.
2. The concept of land was that it owned you not you owned it.
3. There was no future for relationship with his brother.

Lessons for us today – Listening with Aussie Ears

1. Never underestimate the value of Friendship
2. We need to Avoid the busyness trap
3. Friendship requires time & effort

The price of following Jesus may be high

But...

*The price of NOT following Jesus is even
higher.*

The Bridge:

Only You can mend the broken heart
And cause the blind to see
Erase complete the sinner's past
And set the captives free
Only You can take the widow's cry
And cause her heart to sing
Be the Father to the fatherless
Our Savior and our King

The Chorus:

And we will be Your hands
And we will be Your feet