

IF THIS

magic

BARN
COULD
ALWAYS
BE FILLED
WITH
YOUR
FAVORITE

dessert...

WHAT
WOULD

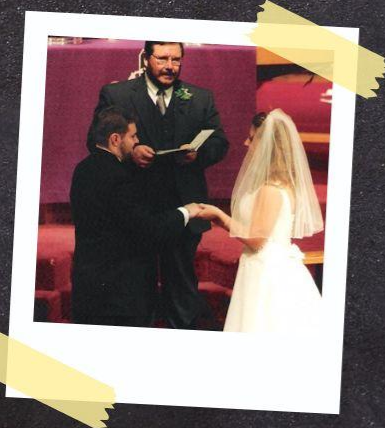
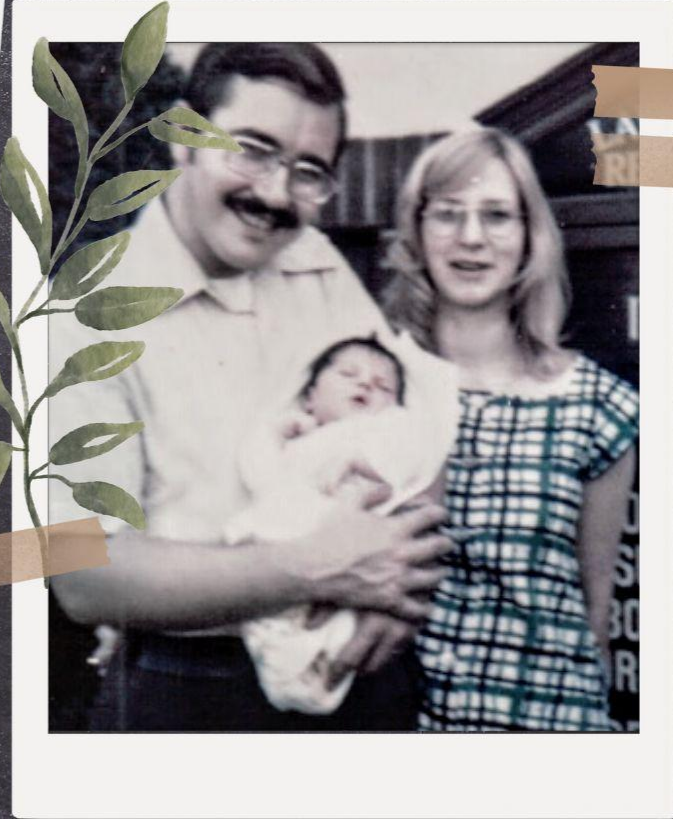
You

CHOOSE?



Not
School's out!

Summer lessons from the parables





"BE ON YOUR GUARD
AGAINST ALL KINDS OF
GREED."

-LUKE 12:15



Meanwhile, when a crowd of many thousands had gathered, so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples...

-LUKE 12:1



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.'

-LUKE 12:13-17



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."

-LUKE 12:18-21



22 Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. 24 Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! 25 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? 26 Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?"

-LUKE 12:22-26



27 "Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 28 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! 29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. 30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.

-LUKE 12:27-30

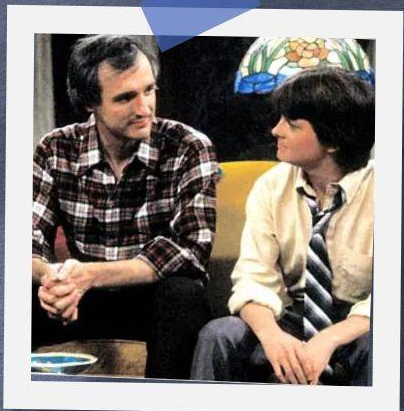
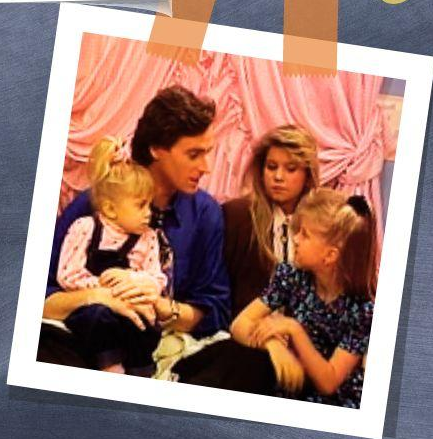
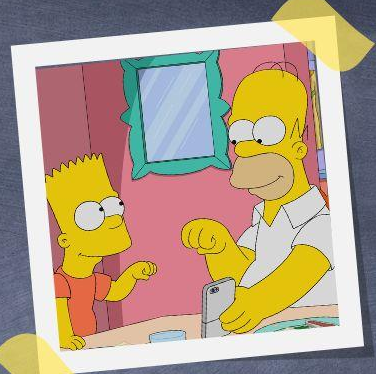
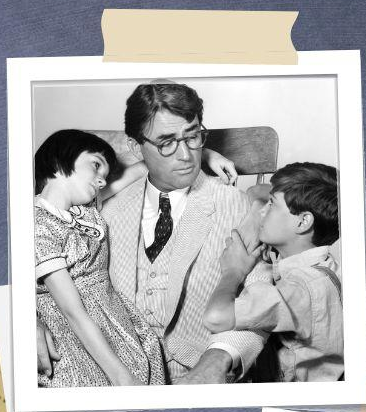


31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

32 Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

-LUKE 12:31-34







GREED VS GIVING

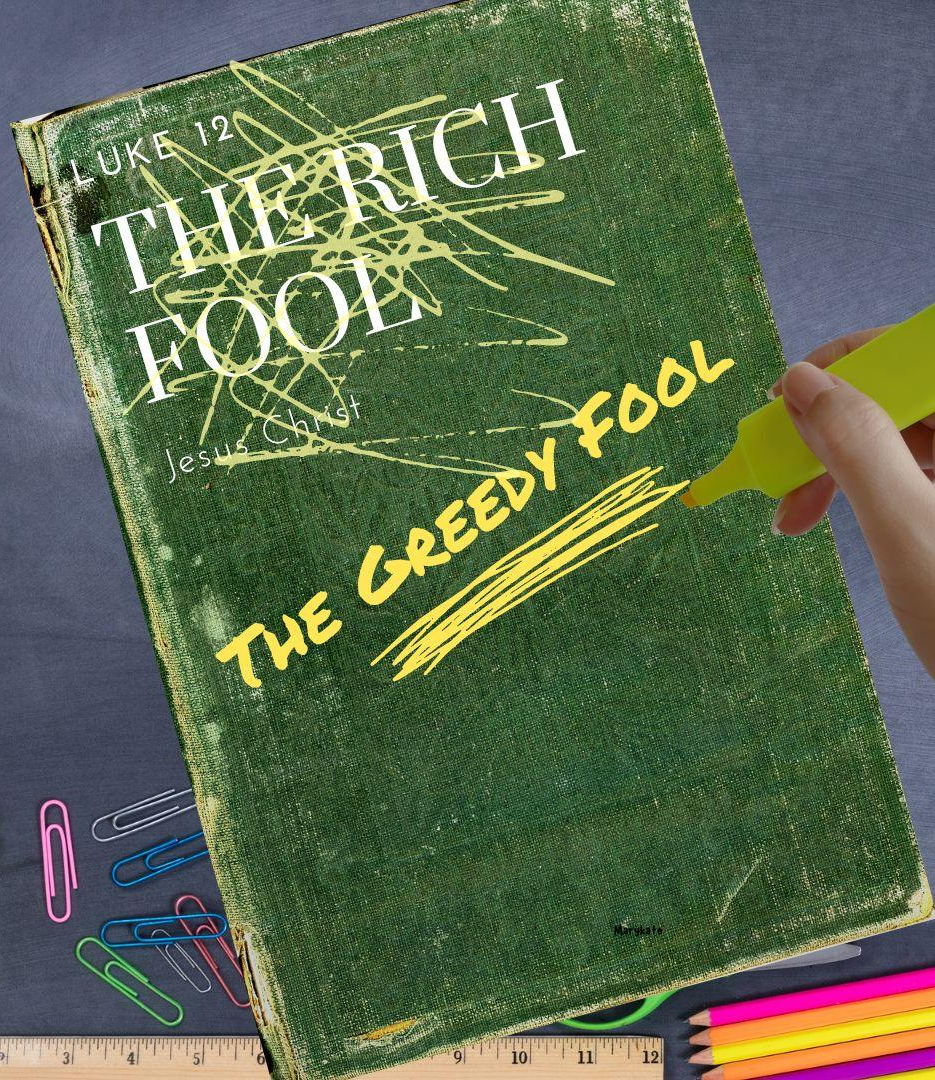
STRESS VS SEEK



Voracious for...

ATTENTION
STUFF
HAPPINESS
FAME





LUKE 12

THE RICH
FOOL

Jesus Christ

THE GREEDY FOOL



"BE ON YOUR GUARD
AGAINST ALL KINDS OF
GREED."

-LUKE 12:15



22 Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes....

24 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. 30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.

-LUKE 12:22-23, 24-30



COMMON EFFECTS OF STRESS

Headache

Muscle Tension/Pain

Chest Pain

Fatigue

Change in libido

Stomach Upset

Sleep problems

Anxiety

Restlessness

Lack of motivation

Lack of focus

Feeling overwhelmed

Irritability or Anger

Sadness or Depression

Overeating

Undereating

Angry Outbursts

Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco misuse

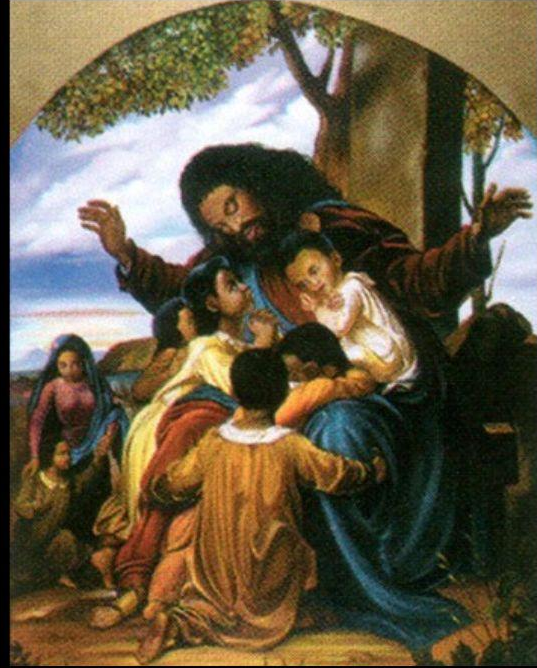
Social withdrawal

Less exercise





"DON'T BE AFRAID,
**LITTLE
FLOCK...**"



GREED VS GIVING



STRESS VS SEEK



Audio file

[Rich Fool Audio.mp3](#)

Transcript

OK, so I would put in this. It's funny that Jeff said red velvet cupcakes. That's his favorite, but I would choose Jeff's Key Lime Pie all day long. He makes the best Key Lime Pie ever, and then I would also because I'm extra. I would also ask for a silo with like orange juice because I'm obsessed with orange juice, so it would be like a barn and a silo. This might seem like a weird question, but really today we're learning about the story that Jesus told a parable called the Rich Fool, and it's about a guy who has barns full of stuff. So even though it seems dumb or funny, Jesus told this story. So Barnes are cool is how I feel. So this is what we're going to do. First of all, I want you to know if we don't know each other very well, it's because you probably don't see me very often. I am in charge of the kids. And eventually Naomi, too, will be. One of ours and so I'm either setting up or tearing down, or preparing or teaching in the classrooms back there. And I actually missed them a lot because today they're making cute little dads day gifts for you guys. So when you're done, you'll get to collect that. And Speaking of dads, let me talk about my dad for a little bit. He's right there. There he is. And here he is. He's so cute. Look. So this is my dad. He married us. That's my 40th birthday anyway. OK, so he's here. He's the best. He taught me all that I needed to know and still him learning about Jesus and how to live a life for him. He didn't only teach his children. He's probably influenced, I would say. Thousands of people when we get to heaven, it's going to be my dad and mom and then a line that just goes for eternity just waiting to talk to them. So he has been in huge influence in my life and I'm really thankful for the all the dads we have here today. But I bring him up and he also taught us he was here. There he is. And he's right there, and hopefully he'll teach us again, but I bring him up. Not only because I love my dad, but because the passage that we're studying today is a parable that Jesus tells. And it is like. The Dadliest, the father Yeest thing I've ever seen Jesus do where he completely is. Like all the TV dads you'll ever see where he's sitting there with his many, many people and he's telling them a story and then he gives them some instruction. He gives them words of wisdom. And so I really. I was excited that this is so like Father's Day today and he has one main thing that he wants to get across. So we're in our third, I think week of our series which is. School is not out, and I'm telling you this is some serious business. We're learning about the stories of Jesus, but last week was humility and this week is greed. Like, we're not messing around like you're going to learn some stuff. So today I want us to leave this room with this verse in our minds. Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. That's what I want for you. Jeff was really cute. Do you remember what Jeff was for? It was way more fun than this, but his was whether guests or host think about humility than most. Well, mine doesn't rhyme, but mine comes right from Jesus, so it's OK. All right, So what we're going to do is read. But let me pray and. Cool off a little. Bit, Lord, we just come before you this morning and we thank you so much for the dads in our lives. Whether they're the best dads we know or people who taught us to be who we are, Lord, I thank you so much that you are our father and we can count on you no matter what humanly issues we've ever had. Or you are our dad. And I ask that you would teach us today from your parables. In Jesus name. Amen. All right, so let's read the passage. But before we get to it. This is verse 12 one and a lot of passers will just read the parable and then stop, but I can't do that. So because I don't think that's enough. So I want you to set the scene

a little bit. Right now Jesus has just come out of the House of a Pharisee. He got invited for dinner to this house and basically the first thing that happens is the Pharisee. Aren't you going to wash beforehand? And then Jesus just goes woe to you, woe to you. Woe to you bunches of woes and lots of instruction. Then he leaves the Pharisees house, and they're still trying to get him. They want to see if he really does know what he's talking about. And so he leaves the house. And meanwhile, while he's leaving, a huge crowd gathers. So this is verse one. Meanwhile, when a crowd of many thousands. Had gathered so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples. There are so many people that they're trampling each other. That's not happening in this room today, but imagine if there were like another couple 1000 people just sitting here, bumping into each other, being loud, and Jesus just starts talking to his disciples. So we're going to actually start in verse 13. I don't think I put a bookmark in the Bibles, but we're in loop 12. Starting in verse 13. So here we go. Someone in the crowd said to him. Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me, Jesus replied man who appointed me a judge or arbiter against you. Between you then, he said to them. Watch out for your watch out. Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. Life does not consist in an abundance of possessions. And he told them this parable, the ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest, he thought to himself. What shall I do? I have no place to store. My crops 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 and I'll say to myself, you have. Plenty of grain laid up for many years take life easy, eat, drink and be. Sorry, but God said to him, you fool, this very night, your life will be demanded from you. Then who will you get? Who will get what you have prepared for yourself? Yes, this is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God. Then Jesus said to his disciples. Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life. What you will eat about your body, what you will wear for life is more than food and the body more than clothes. Consider the Ravens. They do not sow or reap. They have no store room or barn. Yet God feeds them. How much more valuable are you than the birds? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life. And since you cannot do this very little thing, why would you? Worry about the rest. Consider how the wildflowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all of his splendour, was dressed as one of the. If that is how God closed the wrath of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you? You of little faith and do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink. Do not worry about it. For the Pagan world, runs, after all such things, and your father knows what you need when you need them, but seek his Kingdom. And these things will be given to you as well. Do not be afraid, little flock, for your father has been pleased to give you the Kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near. And no moth destroys for where your treasure is there your heart will be also. All right, so Jesus is talking to the disciples and these two brothers must be arguing. They call out to him to help, and Jesus goes into Dad mode immediately. So here's some TV dads. The first person I thought of was Danny Tanner sitting with his girls and the sad music comes on. But what I thought was funny is that there are couple phases of the dad mode in this situation. SO2 boys are fighting. I'm very used to that. I am the daughter of my dad. I have three siblings. Two are boys and I have two daughters of my own. Who are. And so there's a lot of bickering. So Can you imagine that? Jesus is there? And there are thousands of people and one. Dude goes hey. Tell my brother to give me what I want and Jesus. I'm picturing my dad in like another room going, man. Figure it out yourselves. Get it together. And then he's like, fine. OK, here's a word of wisdom. I'm just going to give it to you. Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. Well, then Jesus like Nope, they're listening. I'm going to tell them a story now. That is the way to get

through to people is by telling a story. The Bible is full of stories, and Jesus is so good at telling them so. He sits them down just like these guys, and he tells them a story. And then after that. He says here's what you got. Here's some instruction, and when he's done. The sweetest thing Jesus is talking to thousands of people. He was already kind of annoyed. That's how I see it like uh. But he says, don't be afraid, little flock. Dudes, it's gonna be OK. I got you. That's what he's saying. And he leaves them with a loving, kind, safe thought. You're going to be alright and so. In this story, I feel like God is trying to tell us Jesus is trying to tell us two important things that we have to remember. First, we need to be we need to decide between greed and giving. And we need to decide between stress and seeking. So if I was with the kids, I would go. And stress versus seeking. So if you need a cute little thing when you're greedy, you're grabbing and you're everything. Greed is a huge word. Fun fact, greed comes from the Old English word *grædan*, or voracious. I love this word. It's hungry for more. Always hungry. A person can be insatiably hungry for money but also fame, possessions, attention, compliments, gifts, anything that they want. They can be voracious for it. And we are all that person. Always self-centered. And never satisfied. I feel like that's the best description of greed, always self-centered and never satisfied. So can we already decide what the opposite of greed is? Gratitude and giving. When we teach the story to the little kids, of course we teach it because it has cute barns. Kids love barns. So we have this guy has barns and we go, Oh my gosh, the barns are so full. What should he do? And they all shout 3 year olds. They all shout share. They get it. Now The thing is, 3 worlds are not good at sharing. Let's just admit it, but they know what the right thing to do is, and so do we. So the question is recognizing. What is our enough? What is greed for us? You can totally be honest when I hear the story of the rich fool. I zone out because I'm not rich and if I had money I would not be foolish with it like this idiot. But the truth is, this story is not about him being rich. It's about him having so much that he just decides. Well, I have so much that I'm just going to build a new barn and put more stuff in it. And all I want in my life is more. The kids don't shout share because they're good at it. They shout share because they know that the best way to live is by giving away what we have. Giving gratitude, that's the bigger issue. I think that the I think and I have decided to just rename it the greedy fool because it is not about a rich guy. In this story, enough for the guy, more than enough is measured. It's measured in barns, so the barns are full. He can sit down and have a beer and just enjoy himself and not think about anything anymore. What is our measurement? Our measurement doesn't have those. I will never have enough. What's enough for you? Maybe it's having a car that doesn't break every 20 minutes. Maybe it's a little bit more in the paycheck. Maybe it's a bigger house because you don't fit in your two-bedroom. You need a three bedroom. Maybe it's. I got I am this title but I need this title once I get to this promotion I'll be rich and I won't have to worry and I'll start giving. That's the key. When do you have a? Enough where you can give. I'll tell you right now. I know a lot of you. I know we don't all have enough by the world standards, but we have more than enough than some other people we know. And to give and I'm not talking about money, I'm talking about. I'm talking about. Maybe you have some stuff. Am a dish. Freak. I don't know why. Why do I go to the Walmart where the dishes are \$0.50 and I want to buy? All the colors. I do not need more dishes. Well, what if I gave away the dishes I have that are perfectly fine. Maybe that's a trade off. Even that is better, but this guy? Look at him. Look at this guy. I mean, that guy is living it up. But what do you notice about the other side of the bench? There's no one to share it with. He is going to drink and eat and be merry and then he's going to run out because what else did he forget to do in this story? He doesn't ever say thank you. He never wants questions. How did I get this abundance? The story said he had an abundance. What did he do differently? He never asks. He just says I'm going to build more barns. That sounds great. And then when he inevitably runs out and he's like I have nothing, he also has

nobody and no one will share it with him. That's not the life that we want, right? We want a life where we give and then God says the best Father thing that I've heard a lot. So he's wasting his life. God demands his life back. He's not doing anything with it so technically. The guy has no more life get it. But also I've heard my dad say this and my mom a lot. If you're not going to play with the toys. Why am I buying you more? If you're not. Going to take care of what you've got. Am I getting you more? And God was like you are a fool. I gave you everything you needed. And you're not going to do anything good with it. Well, I'm just going to take it. Thanks for it back. Like very dad, I would say. And don't worry Dad. I'm going to tell how awesome you are in a minute, but here's where our verse is again. Remember, this is the one thing we have to be remembering. Be on guard against all kinds of greed. It's not just money. Stuff attention, whatever. So when we think we have enough, we'll give. Well, when is that? I would say breed versus give, look for the healing that comes from giving and you'll see how much you. All right, let's see what he says. One more time after the story. Because now he's. Here's a story. Now here's some instructions. Then Jesus said to his disciples. Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life. What you will eat, what or about your body, what you will wear for life is more than food and the body more than clothes. And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink. Do not worry about it. For the Pagan world runs after such things and your father knows that you need them, OK? So I wouldn't recommend he. He doesn't say relax, which don't ever say that to a woman, I would say. But, he says, do not worry. I like it when my husband says, do not worry. He like it when my dad says do not worry. I love to be able to tell my children. Do not worry, not because I want. You to just live your life. Uh, I want you to know that what you need. I can give you, so thank goodness I grew up with the family and the life that I did. I am a very greedy person. If it's cute, I want it. If it's fame I want. It, I thought. I was supposed to be. A Broadway star obviously can't do that. I'm sweating my brains out. So I was not called to be on Broadway, but I crave things. I am greedy for things that I can't. Even go into. To you, because that's just me, and I stress about it. So I am right here with you, but worrying about things in my life, trying to get what I want. That voracious like Gimme Gimme Gimme stresses me out and makes me go like this. So you'll notice that greed is very me and giving is very others. Stress is the same way when we hold everything tight and we worry, worry, worry. We're not looking at the Lord. We're not looking at other people. So thankfully I grew up in. A very interesting house. So this is me. This is what happens when you stress. Look at all that bad stuff. All right, so you can go to the ME Park Hill. All right, so here's me. 1312 years old. 12 years old. My dad says OK, God is calling us to live in Vienna, Austria, and I'm based. He didn't say these words, but he basically was a super spy for God. So his job was to travel in and out of the communist countries. At the time we, our whole family, 4 kids, my mom lived in Vienna because it was neutral and safe, so we could praise Jesus, we could live. Like it's a first world country, it's so. First world that try to be a missionary with four children in this country. It's a lot like Verona. It's a lot like not having a lot of money and living in very rich suburbs. It's a difficult situation. I never knew that it was difficult. Turns out it was really hard, especially for my mom, but I never knew that. All I knew was that I want a cabbage patch doll. Here's one of. Those I need braces great braces I would like. A lot of weird scrunchy. Here's some scrunchies. Ohh I would like to play baseball and look like a moron. A softball and look like a moron. I never do that. Those things were things that they had to sacrifice for. I didn't have to worry about those things. I felt like a very normal child. And sure, I wasn't rich. That I mean, no, compared to the stories I hear about the 80s. I don't want that life. I had everything I needed and I never had to worry. And that taught me to trust. My family and help me to be a good mom because I never want my children to worry. Whether we have or not, but also God is going to take care of us. He will give me what I need. We went to Albania once and. We got to do this a lot. We got to go to different. It was a

third world country at that point. It's not anymore. But it had just come out of communism. Took all of us and we spent the summer that I was 16, living in a in an Albanian Albanian college dorm eating bread that had flies baked into it, and they have Turkish toilets there with the just a hole in the ground. And we slept on beds that had no support in the middle. So they were like. Comics, you know? We were hot, we were miserable and we were. With in my head it was like 20 students. Was it 20? 12 Well, there was a lot. More in my brain 12 students. From Albania and from America, and they were voracious for God. We didn't even think about the fact that we only had bread with flies in it. We were so excited to study the word with people who only wanted to know about Jesus. And it we came home to. America and I was like. What is going on here? Why do we need all this stuff? And it changed my whole perspective and I did not give that to my children. I did not have that opportunity to take them on a foreign trip. I wish I could have. I want them to see the world. They live in Verona and they are still people. Who love Jesus? And are not greedy. I don't see greed in them. It's, I mean it is. A huge blessing to me. And I know that it's because they know how to seek Jesus and they trust that we are going to take care of them. And so my favorite part, and I know lots of pastors won't get to this part. But my favorite part is when Jesus says, don't be afraid, little flock. So Jesus loves us like shepherds love their sheep, they guide them. They don't let. Them fall off cliffs. They watch them. Sheep are so dumb and Jesus is calling them sheep. Don't be afraid. I have you, but he doesn't just say don't worry about it. You don't have to do anything he says to seek him. Seek the key. Kingdom and all of this will be added to. You and so if we stress, we're like. Uhhh, but if we seek? Everything becomes clear and I mean, I have been in a lot doing a lot of work in therapy lately and I will tell you right now. It's a miracle that we have Jesus, no matter what I'm dealing with, no matter what things I'm feeling or stressing about or telling my therapist or telling my mom or telling my husband I have the hope that Jesus is going to take care of us so. I am asking you today to look for the good things you already. Have you have barns full? That baby is. A full barn. They have enough. Maybe they don't. Maybe we need to give them baby stuff. You have that. I know people have that, so we need to look around, seek the Lord and know that he is good for us. So let's pray. Jesus, I thank you for this story of this greedy man. That teaches us to look beyond ourselves. Father, I ask that we would leave here today and we would be on guard, that we would be thankful that you have everything that we need. I pray that you would show up this week that we would be on guard from greed, but you would also help us to seek you and then you would show up. Lord, I thank you for the great dads in the room. I thank you for the great dads that aren't in the room, and I thank you for being the best dad to all of us. Thank you for giving us what we need. Let us see that. In Jesus name.