

**I. Read Luke 12:13-21**

- A. In verses 13 and 14, someone is attempting to enlist Jesus in a personal dispute. Why does Jesus refuse to become involved?
- B. In verse 15, Jesus goes right to the heart of the solicitor's problem, which was his covetousness. This is the *crouching lion* in all our hearts. This is the root of all sorts of evil. Irrespective of the solicitor's rights regarding his inheritance, his heart was overcome with covetousness. Read 1 Timothy 6:3-11 and discuss how the apostle Paul makes the same point.

How do we "flee from these things" (verse 6)?

- C. In verses 16-21, Jesus explains the folly of giving too much time and attention to the accumulation of wealth. Why is this foolish?
- D. In verse 20, Jesus alludes to a hard truth. We do not know when we will die. No matter how much planning for the future, retirement preparation, exercise, and healthy eating, etc., we cannot add to the days God has ordained for us. (See Luke 12:25.) Consequently, how should a wise man live?

- E. Comment on the following statement: “I have never yet heard a man on his deathbed say that he wishes he had spent just a little more time at the office or made a few more business deals.”
- F. What sorts of things and/or ideas in our culture encourage our covetous inclinations?
- G. What sorts of things help you to defeat the temptation to give in to covetousness?
- H. Discuss your top four priorities in life.