

Living Connections Bible Study



Things

Icebreaker: What great lesson can we learn by visiting a dump or a junkyard?

Text: Revelation 18:9-19, Luke 12:15

1. Why will the kings, merchants, and peoples of the earth weep at the destruction of Babylon? Revelation 18:9-19; Luke 12:18-20; Mark 8:36

2. What warning does Jesus give us in Luke 12:15, and why do you think this is important?

3. One of the greatest hindrances to a life of giving, of ministry to others, and sacrifice for God is the illusion that *this world is my home*. But what does the Bible teach us about this?

Hebrews 11:13-16 _____

2 Corinthians 5:20 _____

Philippians 3:20 _____

4. What great event should we all be looking forward to?

Titus 2:13; John 14:2-3; Revelation 19:7-9

5. What do you think people mean by the phrase, "*He who dies with the most toys wins*"? What is wrong with that philosophy?

All of us must part with our money and possessions. The only question is when. We can try to hold on to our treasures for a blip longer on the radar of eternity, seeking to derive some enjoyment from them now. The moment we die, or leave when Jesus comes, our treasures will be snatched from our hands forever. But we have a choice to part with it now and meet it again in Heaven.

6. What do you think Jim Elliot, the missionary who was martyred by the Auca Indians in Ecuador, meant when he said, *He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep in order to gain what he cannot lose*. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Matthew 16:24-26

7. Has winning the lottery brought happiness to any of the mega/winners? Why? What usually happens to them?

Nothing makes a sojourner's journey more difficult than a heavy backpack filled with nice, but unnecessary things. Pilgrims travel light.

8. How does acquiring more and more things push us into redefining our priorities?

9. What did Solomon, the richest man on earth discover about wealth?

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11 _____

Ecclesiastes 5:10-15 _____

10. Why do we keep getting fooled into thinking that significance and fulfillment in life are found in material things? Revelation 3:17-18

Think about this week:

A. W. Tozer said: As base a thing as money often is, it yet can be transformed into everlasting treasure. It can be converted into food for the hungry and clothing for the poor; it can keep a missionary actively winning lost men and women to the gospel, and thus transform itself into heavenly values. Any temporal possession can be turned into everlasting wealth. Whatever is given to Christ is immediately touched with immortality.