

**Questions for further study and reflection:**

1. Growing up (or for teens, right now) what were you taught about saving?
2. Have you ever questioned whether saving was something Christians should do? Why or why not?
3. Why is it so hard for people to save? Is it hard for you? Why or why not?
4. Do you think it's possible for everyone to live below their income level? Why or why not?
5. Why do we resist living below our income level? Would you say you intentionally live below your income level?
6. Have you ever felt "enslaved" by money (i.e. creditors, lifestyle expectations, etc.)?
7. How does saving give us the freedom to use money to build God's Kingdom?
8. What has been your attitude toward retirement? Will anything change as a result of this message?
9. How does treating money like it belongs to God (it does) change the way we use it?
10. How will it change the way you use it?

# THE MONEY TRAP

## Bigger Barns

**Avoiding the money trap:**

1. Everything belongs to God.
2. God has entrusted me with His money as a tool for His Kingdom.
3. He wants to provide for not just my needs, but everyone's needs.
4. God expects me to be purposeful with what I have.

**The goal of spiritual growth is that I get over \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Scripture: Luke 12:13-21**

Jesus is teaching people to focus on the eternal.

1. The man's response, "Jesus, tell my brother to share the \_\_\_\_\_ with me!"

Jesus would have been an appropriate judge.

2. Instead, Jesus said the man was missing the point.

The most important thing in life: \_\_\_\_\_.

Money is a \_\_\_\_\_.

### Observations about the parable:

1. The farmer was very \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ farming was the norm.
3. The man would have been commended for good business \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Jesus portrayed the farmer as a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The first thing on his mind was \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The problem isn't saving, it's the \_\_\_\_\_ behind saving.

### A Biblical attitude toward saving:

1. Saving is wise because it teaches us \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 21:20)
  - The godless have no control over their \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Saving gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ to use the tool for the right things. (Proverbs 22:7)
  - It's putting the " \_\_\_\_\_ " on first.
  - Living below my limits allows me to \_\_\_\_\_ now and later.
3. The point of saving is the same as earning; to use it as a \_\_\_\_\_ to build the Kingdom of God.
  - The only relevant question, "What are God's \_\_\_\_\_?"

**"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it..." (Psalm 24:1)**