

# Group Conversation Guide

## Week of February 16, 2025

**Series:** FOR 321  
**Warning:** Generosity Will Change You  
**Passage:** Luke 12:13-21, Luke 12:31-34, Acts 20:25, Proverbs 21:26

### Before The Meeting

- Take time to read Luke 12:13-21, Luke 12:31-34, and Acts 20:25. Reflect on your personal approach to money, possessions, and generosity. Pray for your group members, asking God to open hearts and inspire a spirit of giving that reflects His kingdom.
- **Watch or Attend the Message:** Listen to Pastor Mark Ragsdale's message at [churchatviera.com/live](http://churchatviera.com/live).

### Leader Prep

- Consider how generosity (or lack of it) has shaped your walk with Jesus.
- Be ready to share a personal story of a time generosity changed your heart.
- Be mindful that finances can be a sensitive topic—create an environment of grace, not guilt.

### Icebreaker

- What's the best gift you've ever received? What made it so meaningful?
- Have you ever given something away that meant a lot to you? What was that experience like?

### Beginning the Conversation

Jesus warns us that greed is a danger to our souls, and He challenges us to rethink our priorities when it comes to wealth. In Luke 12:13-21, Jesus tells a parable about a rich man who stored up wealth but ignored God. Instead of seeking temporary riches, Jesus calls us to seek treasures that last forever.

Today, we'll explore:

- The warning against greed and selfishness
- The difference between financial foolishness and wisdom
- The freedom and joy that comes from generosity

## Key Terms

- **Greed** – An intense desire for material gain, often at the expense of others or our spiritual health.
- **Rich Toward God** – Living with a heart that prioritizes eternal investments over earthly ones.
- **Kingdom Wealth** – True riches found in serving God and others, not in accumulating possessions.
- **Go-Getter & Go-Giver** – A mindset that pursues both hard work and generosity.
- **Treasure in Heaven** – Eternal rewards that come from living for Christ and giving to others.

## Discussion Questions – Bible Study

### 1. The Danger of Greed (Luke 12:13-15)

*"Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."*

- Why do you think Jesus warns so strongly against greed?
- In what ways can greed be subtle in our lives?
- How does our culture encourage us to define success by wealth and possessions?
- How can we shift our mindset to view life as more than what we own?

### 2. Financial Foolishness vs. Financial Wisdom (Luke 12:16-21)

*"You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?"*

- What mistakes did the rich man in Jesus' parable make?
- How does focusing on "me" instead of "we" make us spiritually unhealthy?
- What are some practical ways we can use wealth as a **tool** rather than an **idol**?
- How can we cultivate **contentment** in a world that constantly tells us to want more?

### 3. The Call to Generosity (Luke 12:31-34, Acts 20:25, Proverbs 21:26)

*"Seek His kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well... Sell your possessions and give to the poor."*

- What does it mean to be **rich toward God**?
- Why does generosity require faith and trust in God?
- How does giving reflect the heart of Jesus?
- Have you ever experienced joy from giving? Share a personal story.

## Reasons to Live Generously:

- To trust God more than money
- To reflect the heart of Jesus
- To invest in eternal treasures
- To experience freedom from materialism

## Worship Together

Take a few moments to worship as a group: **I Surrender All | Reawaken Hymns**

<https://youtu.be/xSPcuV5Sli8?si=fF-yH50tahxmiVyJ>

## Application: Living It Out

Jesus teaches that generosity isn't just about money—it's about the heart. This week, commit to:

- **Examine Your Priorities** – Ask yourself, “Am I storing up treasure in heaven or on earth?”
- **Give Generously** – Look for a way to bless someone financially, with time, or in another way.
- **Live with Open Hands** – Pray for God to help you hold your resources loosely, trusting Him to provide.

**Challenge:** Consider what you would like to give to CAV's FOR 321 financially.

## Group Prayer

Close in prayer, asking God to:

- Give you a heart that values eternal treasures over earthly ones
- Free you from greed and selfishness
- Help you live generously and trust Him as your provider

**Final Thought:** Generosity will change you. It will loosen the grip of materialism, strengthen your faith, and bring joy that money never can. Will you trust God and take a step of generosity this week?