
Series: Counting the Cost
The Cost of My Possessions

Luke 12:13-48

What does it really cost to be a good steward?

1. I MUST TRADE RECKLESS SPENDING OR EXCESSIVE HOARDING FOR RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP (12:13-21)

- He was irresponsible to himself.
He thought life consisted of just material things. (v. 19)
- He was irresponsible to others.
He didn't realize that God's blessings meant he should help others. (vv. 17-19)
- He was irresponsible to God.
He didn't realize the uncertainty of life and the certainty of judgment. (vv. 20-21)

3. I MUST TRADE THE WORRY ABOUT MY THINGS FOR MY FOCUS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD (12:22-34)

We worry, not because of our possessions or lack of them... we worry because we fail to focus on God. In fact, worry is our attempt to play the role of God

- Worry is destructive. (vv. 22, 29)
- Worry is deceptive. (v. 23)
It gives us a false view of life.
It gives us a false view of God.
- Worry is distractive. (vv. 30-34)

God's pleasures and our treasures must go together!

3. I MUST TRADE LIVING FOR TODAY FOR ANTICIPATING THE FUTURE (12:35-40)

Key questions of readiness:

- Am I living my life in such a way that I am ready for the Lord's return?
- Am I ready for the final audit of my account in heaven?

4. I MUST TRADE SELFISH CONSUMPTION FOR KINGDOM-MINDED GENEROSITY (12:41-48)

If Jesus returned today...

Would He find me faithful in how I live?
Would He find me faithful in how I give?

CHALLENGE:

Count the Cost of Being a Sensible Steward

<u>Weigh</u>	your responsibilities in light of your blessings. (vv. 13-21)
<u>Wait</u>	on God to meet your needs because you have put Him first. (vv. 22-34)
<u>Watch</u>	for the Lord's return because your values are based on eternity. (vv. 35-40)
<u>Work</u>	until the Lord returns because you are faithful to His commission.

***Only one life, it'll soon be past;
Only what's done for Christ will last.***