

THE JOURNEY

Bible Reading Schedule

April 5	Judges 15, 16, 17	Luke 10:1-24
April 6	Judges 18, 19	Luke 10:25-42
April 7	Judges 20, 21	Luke 11:1-28
April 8	Ruth 1, 2, 3, 4	Luke 11:29-54
April 9	1 Samuel 1, 2, 3	Luke 12:1-34
April 10	1 Samuel 4, 5, 6	Luke 12:35-59
April 11	1 Samuel 7, 8, 9	Luke 13:1-21
April 12	1 Samuel 10, 11, 12	Luke 13:22-35

Rich Fool

[Luke 12:13-21]

Why was God's reaction to the rich man so severe?

- God is intolerant of self-indulgent people! God is jealous of all other gods
 Money is can control my heart and actions other _____

What is Jesus saying in this story?

- Success is fine, but remember your highest priority. Keep the end in mind.
 To prepare for the future, you have to look beyond finances.
 When you think you have it made, think again! What have you made?
 You can't take it with you. So what will you take with you?
 Material things provide the greatest test of our spiritual devotion

What is your reaction to: a man's life doesn't consist in the abundance of possessions.

- Sounds good, but clashes with reality.
 Yes, the really important things in life are free.
 If I lived this way, I wouldn't have such a big credit card bill.
 I need to be more generous toward God and others.

What was your ambition in life when you were 18 yrs. old?

- Start a career have a good time make a million dollars
 Find a love interest make my parents proud don't remember

Living Lent: An Undivided Life

First United Methodist Church

SEEK^{HIM CONSTANTLY}
 SERVE^{HIM FAITHFULLY}
 SHARE^{HIM BOLDLY}

An
 Undivided
 Life

Are you living a divided life?

- (1) **Multiplicity:** a life marked by ambivalence, pulled & pushed
 "Blown here and there by every wind of teaching" Eph 4:14
- (2) **Duplicity:** a life marked by false motives.
 "He is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does." James 1:8
- (3) **Excuses:** a life marked by guilt, fear and self-justification
 "He who excuses himself accuses himself." Gabriel Meurier

➤ Simplicity of Heart, Mind, and **Spirit**

Simplicity is the nature of great souls.

"Seek first God's kingdom and what God wants.
 Then all your other needs will be met as well." Matthew 6:33

➤ Washed clean by the power of the **Word**

Human beings are masters of self-deception.

"Nothing and no one is impervious to God's Word." Hebrew 4:12

God is still speaking, but am I listening?

- A Vulnerable Heart** – read for transformation not information
 Be application-oriented – "equipped for every good work." 2tim. 3:17
 Memorize – What the mind repeats, it retains.

➤ Be a person of one **Book**

A map is useful only to those who know they are lost.

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Luke 14:15-24 (CEV)

Who is Greatest?

¹⁵After Jesus had finished speaking, one of the guests said, "The greatest blessing of all is to be at the banquet in God's kingdom!"

¹⁶Jesus told him:

A man once gave a great banquet and invited a lot of guests.

¹⁷When the banquet was ready, he sent a servant to tell the guests, "Everything is ready! Please come."

¹⁸One guest after another started making excuses. The first one said, "I bought some land, and I've got to look it over. Please excuse me."

¹⁹Another guest said, "I bought five teams of oxen, and I need to try them out. Please excuse me."

²⁰Still another guest said, "I have just gotten married, and I can't be there."

²¹The servant told his master what happened, and the master became so angry that he said, "Go as fast as you can to every street and alley in town! Bring in everyone who is poor or crippled or blind or lame."

²²When the servant returned, he said, "Master, I've done what you told me, and there is still plenty of room for more people."

²³His master then told him, "Go out along the back roads and fence rows and make people come in, so that my house will be full.

²⁴Not one of the guests I first invited will get even a bite of my food!"