



WEEK TWO

LUKE 12:13-21

Parable of the Rich Man

SAY
THIS

Don't miss your
chance to give.



MEAL TIME

Q & A for kids: Do you find it easier to give away things or your time?

Q & A for parents: What was your favorite gift you received as a child?

DO
THIS

REMEMBER THIS

"Command the rich to do what is good. Tell them to be rich in doing good things. They must give freely. They must be willing to share."
1 Timothy 6:18, NIV

LIFE
APP

GENEROSITY – Making someone's day by giving something away

CHRISTMAS AND THE "G" WORD

by Carey Nieuwhof

Hi. My name is Carey, and I'm greedy. (This is the point where you all say, "Hi Carey.") I hate to say it. I mean no one goes around and says they're greedy, right? We might think other people are greedy (it's just so easy to spot the sins of others—even from a distance), but it's so difficult to see in ourselves.

But read this definition of greed and tell me if at least a piece of it doesn't own you—or your kids: *Greed is an excessive desire to acquire or possess more than what one needs or deserves, especially with respect to material wealth.*

What makes this time of year difficult for greedy people is that we're going to add to the pile of what we have that we arguably don't need. There are things I want that I don't need. And most of us are actually going to receive things that not only do we not need, but we do not want.

There's a fine line we tread as parents in helping our kids celebrate Christmas. I still remember the almost delirious excitement I had as a child in being able to open gifts at Christmas. Let's face it, what kid doesn't love to get gifts at Christmas?

So how do you make sure, as a parent, that you don't inadvertently fuel greed in your family this Christmas? I suppose you could not give presents and hand out coal. But in my experience, the very best antidote to greed I've discovered is *generosity*. The more I give, the deeper I cut into the greed that lives inside of me.

The more I am willing to take giving to a sacrificial level, the more I am reminded that this life is not about me or about my wants and desire.

As Christmas approaches, ask yourself this question: what am I doing to stem greed in my family this Christmas? Maybe you could:

- Sponsor a family in need.
- Clean out your toy room and donate toys to a local charity
- Bake cookies for your neighbors
- Make sure giving is part of your full year—your weekly practice rather than just a seasonal pursuit.

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