

## Short Term Thinking

Are you thinking long-term about your life or short-term? Short-term thinking asks questions like, “What are my immediate needs? How can I get quick results? How can I improve my image?” Long-term thinking asks, “What are the most important factors in my life? What can I do now to build for the future? How can I work to improve the world around me? How can I assure long lasting security for my family?” Short-term thinking tends to focus more upon OUR immediate needs. Long-term thinking is more outward focused.

Jesus tells a story about a man whose short-term thinking got the best of him. In Luke 12:16-21 he tells the story of a farmer who had been blessed with productive land. On the surface things were going well. However he began to imagine how he could accumulate even more for himself. In his vain imagination, he convinced himself that he controlled his own destiny and built larger barns. He thought that would secure his future. Suddenly God made the farmer’s short-term thinking even shorter. “...God said to him, “Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be? So, is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” That night the farmer died and found out the old saying was true, you can’t take it with you.

I am reminded of another passage where Jesus said, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

As we get ready to take up the offering here are some question for us to think about. First, are you thinking short-term or long-term? Do you focus more on your schedule than your soul? Are you spending your prime time and resources building up your bank accounts, or investing in eternal things that will reap perpetual assets? To become rich toward God you must learn to think long-term by projecting beyond this life, and by investing in things that will truly last.

Our work here at YOUR CHURCH NAME is eternal. When you give you help us invest in the present AND in the future. That investment honors God and makes you rich toward God! So, let’s give today as in investment for the long-term!