

Yr 2 The Rich Fool, Lesson, Luke 12:16-21

Opening Prayer: Our Father, Отче Наш. *See Prayer Posters.* Find an audio version that the children can sing with [here](#).

Gospel: [Luke 12:16-21](#) - Click to follow link. Read the story of the Rich Fool in a children's Bible or [read a simplified version or listen to it here](#). You can watch a [video here](#).

Lesson: Stuff doesn't make us happy; God does.

In the story, why did Jesus say the man was foolish? He said he was foolish because he was always thinking about what he owned instead of things of God. Jesus wants us to learn what is most important in life. Is stuff most important? Discuss.

What is most important? These are what Jesus called the "things of God" (love, family, friendship with God etc.) Discuss. If we don't have them, we can't really be happy.

Are things bad? NO! Things are not bad. Things are good, because God gives all things to enjoy, but they do not make us happy. We can have fun with toys and enjoy new clothes, we can enjoy our house, but these things can never be more important in our lives than loving God, loving others and doing the things that God wants us to do. Some commercials on TV say that things will make us happy, but they can't.

Although it is a difficult concept especially at this age, you may talk about the difference between the feeling of loving and being loved, for example and the feeling of getting something that we wanted. Loving last forever, things do not. True happiness is about loving. True happiness is about God.

Material things can sometimes even make us unhappy. Discuss. (greed, fighting over things, too many things clutter our lives etc.)

Craft: Do not store up treasures barn craft. Have the children draw pictures of things that will bring them closer to God in the windows and doors of the barn (hearts, prayer, doing good to others etc.). Colour the barn.

In Church: Before the lesson, ask the parents of the children if they can give a coin or two for the children to give away in the collection basket or to light a candle for someone when they return to Divine Liturgy.