

Living Water Fellowship

Worship after Serving

16th Sunday after Pentecost – 25th September 2022

COME TO JESUS

Gathering Song & Welcome: Awaken the Dawn

Table Prayer:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

"First Course" of the Meal

Bible Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶ Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. ⁷ After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. ⁸ So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

⁹ But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

¹¹ But you, Timothy, are a man of God; so run from all these evil things. Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have declared so well before many witnesses. ¹³ And I charge you before God, who gives life to all, and before Christ Jesus, who gave a good testimony before Pontius Pilate, ¹⁴ that you obey this command without wavering. Then no one can find fault with you from now until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. ¹⁵ For, At just the right time Christ will be revealed from heaven by the blessed and only almighty God, the King of all kings and Lord of all lords. ¹⁶ He alone can never die, and he lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach him. No human eye has ever seen him, nor ever will. All honour and power to him forever! Amen.

¹⁷ Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. ¹⁹ By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

Faith Chat:

Bible Reading: Luke 12:13-21

¹³ Then someone called from the crowd, "Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me." ¹⁴ Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?" ¹⁵ Then he said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."

¹⁶ Then he told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. ¹⁷ He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I know! I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods. ¹⁹ And I'll sit back and say to myself, 'My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!'"

²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?' ²¹ "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

Guided Devotion & Bible Study:

SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE: SIMPLICITY IN A WORLD OF ACCUMULATION

"Second Course" of the Meal

Offering (*collected during the meal*)

Prayers:

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

GO IN HIS POWER

The Blessings:

† _____, child of God, The Father blesses you with his peace & the riches of his kingdom. Amen.

Announcements:

Song: Everywhere I Go

SHOW HIS LOVE

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-19 & Luke 12:13-21. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging? What really strikes you in these verses?
2. What does the statement thrown at Jesus (vs 13) reveal about that family's situation? Have you ever experienced something like that? What happened?
3. How does Jesus' response, both in vs 14-15 & in the parable, address the issues raised in vs 13? If "life doesn't consist in an abundance of possessions," of what does it consist?
4. In Jesus' parable, how did a rich man come to have an abundant harvest? From where does the financial abundance you enjoy come?
5. In Jesus' parable, what were the plans of the rich man? What did he expect his plans to produce? Why were the rich man's plans foolish according to God? What does it mean to be rich towards God? Have you ever been tempted to believe that "more" of something will create satisfaction or happiness or ease & relief from worry for you? How do you avoid that false hope? How would regularly practicing generosity, simplicity, & Sabbath; deeply engaging the Scriptures in prayer; and living with expansive hospitality effect your life?
6. How will I know if my plans are for God's glory or my own? How will I respond if God reveals that I have plans for selfish gain?
7. What did Paul identify as the path to great gain? How is this different than what contemporary culture sees as the path to great gain?
8. How would you define "necessities"? How do you think someone in the majority world would define "necessities"? How do we reconcile these two viewpoints...or can we?
9. What language did Paul use to describe the drive and desire to constantly acquire more in verse 9-10? Is this a problem you treat as seriously as Paul did? Why or why not?
10. How have you seen money be a destructive force in your own heart and life? In the lives of those you know?
11. How does Paul's admonition in 1 Timothy 6:6-10 apply to all people, not just the rich & famous?
12. How is Jesus Christ described in verse 11-16? How does coming face to face with a God like this make all the riches in the world seem inconsequential?
13. What makes riches uncertain? How do we maintain focus on the Giver as opposed to the good gifts He provides? Do you think of yourself as rich by today's standards? Why or why not?
14. According to verse 17-19, how should rich people relate to the gifts God has given them? What does it mean to be rich in good works? What kind of foundation does this store up & prepare for us in the world to come?