

ALL SAINTS at HOME and TOGETHER

SUNDAY 25 JULY, 2021

BEING RICH

Hi everyone,
This weeks newsletter is about money and possessions and being rich.

What do you want to do when you're older and leave school?

- What sort of job do you want to do?
- Where would you like to live?
- What sort of house would you like to live in?
- Do you expect to own a car and what sort of car?
- Do you expect to earn high wages, medium wages or low wages?
- Do you think you'll be rich?

What does "being rich" mean ?

Does it mean

- having loads of money?
- having loads of land?
- having a successful and profitable business?
- being able to buy loads of things without thinking about their cost like fast cars, the latest fashions, having the biggest parties?



And because you have loads of money, land, and possessions do you think that will make you happy ?

Jesus was concerned that money (and possessions) can become something that consumes and rules people's lives. They end up "loving" and "worshiping" money and themselves, and not God and not looking after each other and God's kingdom.



Jesus said:

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” **Matthew 6 v24**

This doesn't mean everyone should be poor and have no money !

It also doesn't mean when you get some money you have to spend it as soon as possible before it starts to rule your life !

No - it means not wanting to have everything we see or hear about, but instead being satisfied and grateful with what we already have. And when you have money to use it wisely.

In addition, being rich in the eyes of God isn't about how much money you've got, instead means being rich in humanity and humility by:

- being rich in doing good deeds,
- being rich in generosity and willing to share,
- being rich in relationships with others,
- being rich in looking after God's world.

Being rich to God means valuing what God values.

In Paul's first letter to Timothy* (6 v17-19) Paul says:

Command those who are rich in the things of this life not to be proud, but to place their hope, not in such an uncertain thing as riches, but in God, who generously gives us everything for our enjoyment.

Command them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share with others.

In this way they will store up for themselves a treasure which will be a solid foundation for the future. And then they will be able to win the life which is true life.

* Timothy was a young Christian who was the son of a Jewish mother and a Greek father. He became a companion and friend to Paul during Paul's missionary work.

And here's a modern day quote from an unknown source:

A meaningful life is not being rich, being popular, or being perfect.
It's about being real, being humble, being able to share ourselves and touch the lives of others.

You might remember a few weeks ago (30 May) we talked about "greed" and the parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-15) about the man built bigger and bigger barns to hoard his abundant crops and then took life easy, eating and drinking and enjoying himself. And Jesus' message was **"those who pile up riches for themselves are not rich in God's sight."**



Now you know what being rich really about, what do you think you've already done now and will be doing in the future to show how rich you already are and expect to become..... in terms of:

- doing good deeds,
- being generous and willing to share,
- being rich in relationships with others,
- being rich in looking after God's world.

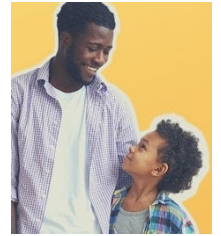
Fill-in the table below and discuss your answers with your mum and dad.

	Now (things I've already done)	In the future (things I will be trying to do in the future)
Doing good deeds		
Being generous and willing to share		
Being rich in relationships with others		
Being rich in looking after God's world		

A Story about a Rich Kid and his Dad

Once upon a time there was a boy whose family was very wealthy and rich.

One day his father took him on a trip to the countryside, where he intended to show his son how the son had been given everything in life by showing him how poor people live.



So they arrived at a farm of a very poor family and spent several days helping the farmer and his family looking after the animals and working the land. Then they decided to return home.



On their return the father asked the son if he liked the trip and had he learned anything.

“Did you notice how poor people live?” the father asked.

“Yes I did” said the boy. “The family is so lucky”.

The father was a bit taken aback, expecting his son to realise what a rich and privileged life he had been leading. He asked his son to tell him in more.

“Well we have only one dog and they have four of them....and they also have chickens.

In our garden there is a pool while they have a river that has no end.

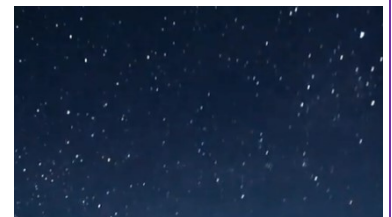
We’ve got expensive lanterns outside but they have the stars above their heads at night.



We have the balcony and they have the whole horizon. We have only a small piece of land while they have the endless fields.

We buy food but they grow it.

We’ve got a high fence for protection of our property and they don’t need it as their friends protect them.



The father was stunned by the boy’s answers. He couldn’t utter a word.

Then the boy added “Thank you father for letting me see **how poor we are!**”

And the moral of the story is:

True wealth and richness are not measured by materialistic things and money.

Love, friendship and freedom are far more valuable than having loads of money and possessions. Having someone to share your happiness and sadness with is far more important than having a sports car !

You are truly rich when you possess love, friendship and are free.

Prayer

Dear God,

Please help me to be grateful for, and appreciate the things of real importance - particularly love for you, and love for my family and friends.

As I get older please guide me to be rich in those things that Jesus valued.

Amen



Word Searches

T	N	O	D	H	S	G	E	P
I	L	B	S	Y	H	O	L	A
E	R	G	E	U	A	D	P	D
P	O	O	R	W	R	G	R	E
J	C	J	V	L	E	U	I	E
H	A	E	E	A	O	F	C	D
R	R	N	Y	F	S	V	H	S
A	E	P	O	M	O	N	E	Y
H	A	P	P	I	N	E	S	S

Word List

HAPPINESS	MONEY	SHARE	POOR	LOVE
RICHES	DEEDS	SERVE	CARE	GOD

H	O	E	P	O	O	R	V	L	H	V	G	P	W
R	E	D	G	N	E	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	H
E	R	R	N	R	S	O	O	H	C	I	R	S	D
L	A	T	I	W	E	A	L	T	H	H	S	I	I
A	C	V	R	Y	E	N	O	M	O	R	C	R	A
T	O	A	A	M	I	D	E	E	D	S	S	N	S
I	N	L	H	I	N	H	E	L	B	M	U	H	S
O	M	U	S	N	O	I	S	S	E	S	S	O	P
N	O	E	V	D	T	N	A	T	R	O	P	M	I
S	D	I	S	S	E	N	I	P	P	A	H	P	S
H	G	P	R	L	S	W	O	A	W	C	R	I	E
I	N	C	H	O	G	N	H	S	E	R	V	E	G
P	I	A	I	V	O	L	I	M	N	S	C	T	R
S	K	S	M	E	D	N	R	C	L	E	S	S	D

CARE
 IMPORTANT
 HAPPINESS
 WEALTH
 WORSHIP
 RELATIONSHIPS
 DEEDS
 SHARING
 LOVE
 MONEY
 POSSESSIONS
 VALUE
 SERVE
 RICH
 HUMBLE
 KINGDOM
 POOR
 GOD

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2576555/>

Colouring Page

Colour the words and write a list of those you are grateful for, and appreciate which are of real importance.

I am grateful for
and appreciate:



I am grateful for
and appreciate: