

Wednesday

Read Luke 16:24-26 *Rich man becomes a beggar*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why would there be a divide between the man in agony and the man who was comforted?*
2. *What has kept you from a connection with God this past week?*

Prayer Focus Creator, we know your plan is always for the good of your children and that you long for us to be with you in every way. Thank you for the love that never fails to reach us. Help us long to embrace it and to show it to others, as freely as you show us, always.

Thursday

Read Luke 16:27-28 *Asking a favor from Lazarus*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Was it a good thing that the rich man thought of others in the midst of his torment? Why?*
2. *Who are you praying for this week?*

Prayer Focus In the midst of Lent, of life, God, we recognize that we need to seize the day and hold tight to the way you showed us in Jesus's life, death, and resurrection. We lift our prayers to you, knowing that the time is now to pray and live as recipients of your grace.

Friday

Read Luke 16:29-31 *What do you believe?*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Who is the person you believe most in the world? Why?*
2. *What could you do this coming week to bridge the divide between you and God? Between you and others?*

Prayer Focus We offer up the worldly chains that keep us from living fully, Gracious One, from having abundant life according to your will. Give us courage to change and to reach out. Make us instruments of your love and peace.

Foundational Assumptions

Pastor's message: *Luke 16:19-31*; Rich man and Lazarus

Message Notes:

Small Group Format

Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Who is the wealthiest person you've ever met?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Luke 16:19-31**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)



FOUNDATIONAL ASSUMPTIONS

April 3, 2022

Monday

Read Luke 16:19-21 *Lazarus and the rich man*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why do you think the rich man did not invite Lazarus into his home or offer him care?*
2. *Are there possessions you cherish most? Why?*

Prayer Focus Great God, we often do not even see the ones in need who are right at our door. Open the eyes of our hearts and turn us to the gifts we have to offer to those who suffer in our world.

Tuesday

Read Luke 16:22-23 *Death comes for both rich and poor*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why were Abraham and Lazarus far away? How do you think this affected the rich man?*
2. *Where have you been tested this past week?*

Prayer Focus We acknowledge the many ways we seek to separate ourselves from the truth of the world as it is. We are willing to turn back to you, Sustainer. Let us see what holds us back and keeps us from true connection.