

**"TAKE A BREATH ... TIME TO STORE UP?" - AUGUST 4, 2019**  
**THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**ECCLESIASTES 1:2,12-14, 2:18-23; COLOSSIANS 3:1-11; LUKE 12:13-21**  
**Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.**

**Most of us have extra things stored up. It is good to be prepared, to have a few back up items. It is best not to have so many non essentials, there is not room for what matters most. As we listen to Jesus and follow him, at times we may feel uncomfortable. That's ok; even good. Today Jesus tells us we may feel uneasy when it comes to our desire for wealth and possessions. Wealth and possessions are not the tension; our desire is. When we find ourselves looking first to our own desires rather than The Spirit and The Christ, we are putting our trust in a god who cannot save us. Let us take a deep breath in the grace and power of this truth: Jesus stores up 100% of his grace to give all he has, for all eternity, to save us!**

1. What are you storing up in your life? How do these things impact your spiritual journey, your spirit, you at the core? Ecclesiastes 2:22; Luke 12:15,18
  - A. Be aware of the tension the following things have on your life.
    - i. power
    - ii. status
    - iii. possessions
    - iv. control
    - v. people
    - vi. money(circle the ones that pull at you the most)  
(draw a box around those you think pull at a church like Lord of Life)
  - B. Let us remember: These things cannot save our lives; these things cannot save us from today and tomorrow.
  
2. What are you storing up? What kinds of things do you wish you had more of? How do these things impact your spiritual journey, your spirit, you?
  - A. Are we better at storing up stuff, than we are at asking God to help us gather up spirit? Colossians 3:1-3
  - B. Are we better at storing up time and tasks, than we are at telling God we want more and more room for truth and thanksgiving? Ecclesiastes 1:12-14, 2:18-23

- C. Are we storing up things, objects that overtake us, that we become obsessed with, or are we asking God to help us clear things out to make room for order and the obvious? Luke 12:13-15
  - D. Are we storing up things because reality has a hold on us, or are we willing to ask God to help us clean our hearts and to trust anew real risk and release of the soul? Colossians 3:4-10
  - E. Are we storing up so many little and big extras, there is too little room to trust God provides every essential for all eternity? Luke 12:18-21
3. What do you have room for in your life? What do you want to make room for? The time is now to take a deep breath, to store up the best! Luke 12:19-21
- It has been said, "If even 1% of what we Christians believe to be true, is true, we should be 100% more faithful, joyful, spirited, enthusiastic, giving, humbled, trusting, free and hopeful."
4. Ecclesiastes 1:13; Colossians 3:1; Luke 12:13 - Trust and celebrate and surrender, 100% more today than yesterday, that God sent Jesus The Christ, not to condemn you in the midst of your daily tensions, but to free you from them. Take a deep breath in the grace of this truth: God sent Jesus to store up for us and in us all we will ever need: spirit, truth, risk, release, hope, salvation for all eternity!