

“Overlooking Opportunities” based on Luke 16:19-31

Many people today are ‘care-free’ in their attitude toward life

- Don’t get upset about building house in fire zone, on an earthquake fault, or in a flood area
- Don’t bother with health insurance, eating the right food, or exercising
- Don’t plan for retirement or loss of a job
- They live for today with no thought about tomorrow

Lessons this week speak of a dramatic turn of events

- Recount Biblical story
- 2 messages at work: Appears that money or being rich is the problem, the whole story was in response to the Pharisees, who were ‘lovers of money’. Real problem was the indifference of the rich man.
- We are given clear guidance, not only the Pentateuch and the Prophets, but also the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Story about a traveler who applied for admission to heaven. Was told to come back with the earth’s most prized possession. Not wealth, not power, not wisdom, but compassion

How often we look for the wrong things. Craving leads us to overlook what is most important. Opposite of love is not hate, but ‘indifference’. We are warned, encouraged, challenged, and called to love God and our fellow human beings, and to use our resources as a means of helping those in need. The rich man had opportunity, will we use ours?