

Home Group notes for the week following Sunday 23rd February 2014

## **THEME: IDENTITY IN CHRIST – MY VALUES**

### **As we Gather**

In the parable of the rich man we learn the difference between our values and those of God pertaining to priorities and prosperity (Luke 12:15 and 21)

**Reading Scripture      LUKE 12 :13 – 21**

### **Thinking together**

Problems about division of inheritance were often brought to rabbis for settlement – today we turn to lawyers. Jesus refused to become involved in anyone's dispute about money (12:13), but used the opportunity to spell out what a disciple's attitude to material things should be. He spoke to those who had much (greed) and to those who had little (covetousness).

Our priorities tend to centre round acquiring / achieving security relating to food, shelter, safety, acceptance and enjoying the good life as understood by the society in which we live.

**What are your views on the above statement? Discuss**

**How do these priorities differ from God's priority – see Matthew 4:19, Psalm 1:1-3 and Philippians 4:19? Discuss**

Our understanding of prosperity – 'living the good life' – today is very different from that of 50 – 40 or even 20 years ago

**Why do you think this is so? Discuss**

God's understanding of prosperity is

- That His disciples should live full, complete and balanced (fulfilled) lives

**What do you understand this to mean? Discuss**

- That He makes provision for this through His Word

**How has God made provision for us to live fulfilled lives – see John 1:1-4? Discuss**

- That He promises to supply our every need (Philippians 4:19), and to fulfil the desires of our hearts (Psalm 37:4).

In His parable Jesus teaches disciples the righteous use of money (Matthew 6:19-24) and the dangers of materialism (Luke 12:16-20). The rich man never saw beyond himself and never saw beyond this world.

