



# *Grace upon Grace*

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## ***Being Truly Rich***

Dear Friends,

This is a classic biblical story that lends itself well to preaching about stewardship. It is a text that is synonymous with stewardship education. Yet there is a subtlety in this passage that I have overlooked for far too many years and sermons. There is a rich vein of content buried beneath the traditional interpretation of this well known passage. So rich that it warrants a sermon all by itself. It is an essential message about community unfolding through that lens of one man's greed to acquire more in order to secure his future. It is a conversation riddled with first person singular pronouns. It is summed up in his closing remarks to himself, "relax, eat, drink and be merry." There is no mention of others. There is no indication of sharing his abundance. There is simply his self-absorbed desire to take care of himself. He is consumed with getting more because more for him means security and having an easy life of eating, drinking and happiness. Of course there is so much more to living a fulfilling life. Our true nature is to be in community. Our true calling is to be in relationship. Our true nature is to be kind and to share. Can there be anything more dismal than missing the beauty and true richness of living life for a future that never arrives. Our richness towards God is found in the heart of community living and loving, enjoying life in the present and being attuned to a world around us, which thrives on our connectedness to one another.

In the love of our Lord Jesus,  
Wayne