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| **SERMON NOTES Sunday 4th October** |
| **SunnySide** |

**Bible passages:** Deuteronomy 8.7-18, Luke 12.16-30

**Introduction**

* The people of Israel survey the promised land
* Moses reminds them of their history
* Moses tells of the wonderful land they are to enter
* Jesus tells the parable of a rich man who has prospered in the promised land

**Where did the rich man go wrong?**

* He forgot where his wealth came from
* He forgot God’s commandments and wasn’t generous
* He forgot Moses’ warning

**How can we avoid the same mistakes**

* By thanking God for all he gives us
* By remembering to love others and being good and generous stewards
* By being rich towards God

**Do not worry**

* Worrying is a waste of time and energy
* Worry reduces and supresses our enjoyment of life

**Trust God and be prepared!**

* God provides for birds and flowers and will provide for our needs.
* Be prepared (& excited) that you might be God’s provision for someone else’s needs.

**Some questions for discussion**

1. In what ways do you forget where the things you have come from? Are there things you can do to remind you to be thankful to God for all that you have?
2. Read Deuteronomy 8.7-18. In this passage Moses reminds the people of Israel of their history. Spend a few minutes thinking about your faith journey. Share how God has been at work in your life with someone else.
3. Read Luke 12.16-30, which verse stands out for you today?
4. “The world has been created for everyone's use, but you few rich are trying to keep it for yourselves. For not merely the possession of the earth, but the very sky, the air, and the sea are claimed for the use of the rich few. The earth belongs to all, not just to the rich.” *St. Ambrose of Milan (340-397)* This is not a new problem! In what ways can we be better stewards of the gifts we have been given?
5. What does the phrase “being rich towards God” mean to you? What are your distractions?
6. What do you worry about? Can you give those things to God now in prayer, asking him to help you stop worrying?
7. In what ways might you be God’s provision for a neighbours needs?

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders

Let me walk upon the waters wherever You would call me  
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander

And my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Saviour

Why not spend some time this week thanking God for all he has given you and asking for help to trust him more each day?

Revd Hilary Kemp