BENEATH THE SURFACE

[23] Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

15 . . . “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed;

Luke 12:15a (NIV)

# בָּצַע (beh-tzah)

to “cut off” a little bit more than your fair share.

“13 . . . Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

Luke 12:13b (NIV)

בָּצַע (beh-tzah)

to “cut off” a little bit more than your fair share.

πλεονέκτης (pleon-ektēs)

to get or hold as much as possible.

15 . . .“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed;

Luke 12:15a (NIV)

16 And he told them this parable: “The ground of
a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest.
17 He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have
no place to store my crops.’

18 “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear
down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I
will store my surplus grain.

Luke 12:16-18 (NIV)

19 And I'll say to myself [some translations say, "I'll say to my soul"], "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."'

Luke 12:19 (NIV)

20 “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night
your life will be demanded from you. Then who
will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ 21
“This is how it will be with whoever stores up
things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

Luke 12:20-21 (NIV)

20 “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

Luke 12:20 (NIV)

22 Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. 23 For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.

25 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? . . . 29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it.

Luke 12:22-23, 25, 29 (NIV)

“What is the cost of our inability to feel satiated? Research shows materialistic individuals report lower life satisfaction, more depression, and greater anxiety despite their wealth. The pursuit of material possessions becomes a source of suffering in which we are always wanting more, while rarely savoring what we already have.”

- The Psychology of Greed (*Psychology Today*)

# Consider and Seek

# Consider and Seek

1. Consider

24 Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap,
they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds
them. And how much more valuable you are than
birds!

Luke 12:24 (NIV)

27 “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do
not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon
in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.
28 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field,
which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into
the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you
of little faith!

Luke 12:27-28 (NIV)

15 The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food at the proper time.
16 You open your hand
and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Psalm 145:15-16 (NIV)

29 And do not set your heart on what you will eat
or drink; do not worry about it. 30 For the pagan
world runs after all such things, and your Father
knows that you need them. 31 But seek his
kingdom, and these things will be given to you as
well.

Luke 12:29-31 (NIV)

# Consider and Seek

1. Consider
2. Seek

31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Luke 12:31 (NIV)

Seek first the kingdom of God.

Seek first the kingdom of God.

Help the community of God’s people thrive.

23 Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)