

# Allelon Sunday School for August 5, 2007

## Opening Prayer

### Responsive Reading: Psalm 49:1-12

1 Hear this, all you peoples;  
*give ear, all inhabitants of the world,*

2 both low and high,  
*rich and poor together.*

3 My mouth shall speak wisdom;  
*the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.*

4 I will incline my ear to a proverb;  
*I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.*

5 Why should I fear in times of trouble,  
*when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,*

6 those who trust in their wealth  
*and boast of the abundance of their riches?*

7 Truly, no ransom avails for one's life,  
*there is no price one can give to God for it.*

8 For the ransom of life is costly,  
*and can never suffice*

9 that one should live on forever  
*and never see the grave.*

10 When we look at the wise, they die;  
*fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others.*

11 Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling  
places to all generations,  
*though they named lands their own.*

12 Mortals cannot abide in their pomp;  
*they are like the animals that perish.*

## Stand as Leader Reads Luke 12:13-21

## Move to Building Groups

## After Building Groups time, Leader Reads Hosea 11:1-11

## Closing Prayer

## The Week's Preparation

Each day's Scripture readings are now available automatically from <http://bogartchristian.org> for your devotions. Look on the Sunday school page.

As you say your prayers each morning or evening (or, even better, both), try to use phrases from the Scriptures in your prayers and to pray for the people who were in your Building Group this week. Write their names at the bottom of this sheet.

## Extra Innings

If you answer all of the questions on the other side of this sheet before 10:45, take a few minutes to talk about some of these questions.

1. Take a minute to look at today's prayer requests. If there's any of them that your group members don't know, inform one another.
2. Look at the names of the deacons serving communion today and make sure that everyone in the group knows who they are and how people got to know them.
3. What kinds of things (pictures, books, other objects) in the building remind us what we're doing here? What does each remind us of?
4. Look at today's Old Testament passage that we read. What does it tell us about God? About those who followed God before we did?

## **Building Group Discussion**

Get together with the folks from your age group in your Building Group. If you're under twenty, talk to your group members about what you'd rather be doing next week rather than going back to school. If you're over twenty, talk to your group about what you'd rather be doing instead of whatever you've got to do this week. Take about five minutes to jot down at a little something about each item, and when you've finished, share with the other age group what you came up with.

## **Story time!**

Go through as many of these as you can before 10:35:

1. Someone older than twenty, tell a story about the boss at work. (Church appropriate, please.)  
According to your employer, why is that person and not someone else the boss?
2. Someone younger than twenty, tell a story about a hard test in one of your classes. What made it so hard? Did some people do well and others bomb it, or did everyone do poorly?
3. Two people other than the two who have already told stories, tell stories about how you've done something not primarily for the grade or the money but because it's a good thing to do. Say what makes it so good. If either one says fishing, make sure they're not exaggerating about the size of the fish.

## **The Crawl: Luke 12:13-21**

Answer these as a group. If you don't understand, talk with your group until everyone has a grasp on it.

When someone says something that makes you think of a question, ASK THE QUESTION OUT LOUD!

1. What kind of dispute do the people ask Jesus to resolve in the beginning of today's story? Does that strike you as a good question for him or not? Why or why not?
2. What seems to be the main upshot of Jesus's parable? Is he against saving money? Against planning for next year? What is going on here?
3. In verse 16, how does the man actually get rich?
4. In verse 18, how does the man respond to this abundance? What might have been some other options with regards to how he handles his newfound surplus?
5. What does "rich towards God" mean in the last verse? When you hear that phrase, what person in your life comes to mind?
6. Return to question 2 if you still have time and see if your answers are still the same.

**Return to the sanctuary by 10:45, but only after you've really dug into those questions! If you finish early, go to the front of this sheet and talk through the "Extra Innings" questions.**