

Chat with the Children

- (1.) Here is a farmer who is very rich. The farmer is rich because his soil is rich. And his corn grows faster than anyone else's.
- (2.) And higher than anyone else's.
- (3.) And at harvest time he has much more of it than anyone else! **Lucky man.**
- (4.) This year he has so much corn that his old barn can't hold it all. It is bursting at the seams.
- (5.) "No problem," says the farmer. "I will pull it down and build a bigger one. Then next year I will be rich enough to take life easy." So he builds a bigger barn.
- (6.) But when the harvest comes round again, the new barn is not big enough. The greedy farmer has planted more corn than before. And carrots too.
- (7.) "No problem," says the farmer. "I will build an even bigger, better barn. Then next year I will be richer still and then I can really enjoy myself." So he builds a bigger, better barn.
- (8.) But at harvest time, even the bigger better barn is not big enough. Again the farmer has planted too much corn, too many carrots. (And a few cabbages as well.)
- (9.) This time the farmer says to himself. "I will build the biggest, grandest barn the world has ever seen. And then I shall be so rich I need never work again!"
- (10.) The barn he builds reaches up to the sky. When it is finished the farmer sighs a great big sigh. "Tomorrow I will gather in the harvest and then at last I shall begin to enjoy myself. I know! I'll have a party!"
- (11.) But that very night he dies in his sleep. Just like that! The birds eat his corn, the rabbits dig up his carrots, and his cabbages go to seed. The big barn stands empty and the rich farmer never does get to enjoy his money. **Poor man.**
- (12.) Jesus says, "How silly it is for a man to spend his whole life storing up riches for himself. To God, he is really a poor man."

Introduction

- "Most people are bothered by those passages of Scripture they don't understand - but I have always noticed that the passages that bother me are the ones I do understand." (Mark Twain)

Attitude

- Don't worry
 - God provides
 - "trick" is the realisation that God provides, which will drain away the worry...
 - worry says "God won't come through for me"

Action

- Can practise attitudes by choosing to act in certain ways:
 - giving, tithing, waiting, saving, not buying...

Canadian couple give away millions in lottery winnings

- A Canadian couple who won \$10.9m (£6.7m) in lottery winnings in July say they have given away \$10.2m of the prize to groups in their community. Allen and Violet Large said *they were plain country folks who needed no more than "what we've got"*. The two said they had donated about 98% of the cash after helping their family. The elderly pair gave the money to churches, fire departments, cemeteries, the Red Cross and hospitals, where Ms Large has undergone cancer treatment. "We haven't bought one thing. That's because there is nothing that we need," Mr Large, 75, told the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Mr Large, a retired welder from Canada's Nova Scotia province, added that he and his wife were quite content with their 147-year-old home and everything else they already owned. *"You can't buy happiness,"* he said.

Aspiration

- Seek kingdom
 - where Christ is king...
 - ruler over our words, our form filling, over our spending and giving, our generosity
- *Where is your heart?*