

Week 7



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“Frank Shirley and The Gift That Changes Everything”

Frank Shirley and The Gift That Changes Everything Week 7

Movie Character: Frank Shirley (Clark’s Boss) → King Herod Biblical Character: Herod (Power and Pride)

Main Scripture: Luke 12:15–21; Acts 20:35

Big Idea: Greed blinds us to grace, but generosity opens the door to transformation.

Takeaway: When you give freely, you reflect the heart of God.

****Clark’s Boss and the Gift That Changes Everything ****

Greed vs. Grace

Greed blinds us to grace, but generosity opens the door to transformation.

Greed fuels the illusion of control.

The Illusion of Control: Frank Shirley and King Herod

****Clark’s Boss****

Epitome of the distant boss who controls bonuses.

Operates from a place of **perceived security** and transactional relationships, lacking empathy.

Worldview of scarcity: “If I give **more**, I have **less**.”

****King Herod: The Power-Obsessed Ruler****

Consumed by maintaining power, title, and wealth.

Obsessed with eliminating anything that threatened his status (e.g., the newborn King).

His pride dictated his actions; he lived in luxury while his people struggled.

****The Common Blindness****

Both men missed the miracle/grace right in front of them because their vision was fixed on their own kingdoms/security.

Definition of greed: Believing **security** comes from what you **possess**, not **who** possesses you.

The Blindness of Greed: A Biblical Warning

Luke 12:15–21 ESV “And he said to them, ‘Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’ And he told them a parable, saying, ‘The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

One's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.

The Rich Fool

Condemned not for being rich, but for being a fool.

Chose maximum security for himself (“tear down my barns and build larger ones”).

“Rich toward himself, but poor toward God.” He was blinded by self-centeredness.

****Frank Shirley’s “Jelly of the Month Club”****

An embodiment of the rich fool's mindset: choosing to hoard company resources rather than bless employees.

A cheap, impersonal gesture that undervalued people.

The consequence: Clinging tightly to possessions creates a barrier to grace.

****The Transformative Power of Giving****

The act of generosity **transforms** the **giver** as much as the **receiver**.

Acts 20:35 ESV “In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Remembering Jesus' words: “It is **more blessed** to give than to receive.”

The world says **receiving** makes you **powerful**; Jesus says **giving** makes you **blessed**.

Generosity is a spiritual practice that breaks the chains of greed and acknowledges God as the true owner (stewardship vs. ownership).

****God's heart****

To get us to shift from a scarcity mindset to an abundance mindset..

That we would understand that operating from generosity breaks the illusion of self-sufficiency.

Where might you be hoarding resources (energy, time, money, kindness).

Choose to give freely; reflect the heart of God not just with your wallet, but with your attitude, time, and love.

When you give freely, you break the blindness of greed and open the door to a life overflowing with grace and true transformation.