Sermon:   
**“I will tear down my barns & build bigger ones, where I will store my corn & all my other goods…. You have all the good things you need for many years. Take life easy, eat, drink, & enjoy yourself”** (Luke 12.18-19)

Adverts make us want stuff – cars that help you park, wrinkle-free skin, bottled water. Luke 12.13-21.

[1] **I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones.**

Escape to the Country – couple on their own still need a huge living room and 4 bedrooms. Really?

Mitre 10 advert: Big is Good – not necessarily. In Jesus’ day a large harvest was there to share with the poor. “I’ll store this for those who will need it.” Instead, our man stores it just for himself.

So we need to wake up – do we need more for ourselves?

[2] **You have all the good things you need for many years.**

Joan Hodges died last week four years after Arthur; since then Joan has sunk into confusion. Almost as if his death was a surprise – it was inevitable, though timing & circumstances are usually unknown. Young people often act as if they were immortal – driving, dangerous sports.   
Adults may not risk, but often ignore death. We have been asked to pray for someone who is 42 with breast cancer. So we need to wake up – life is short.

[3] **Take life easy, eat, drink, and enjoy yourself.**

Retirement villages sound wonderful if you can make it, yet the adverts encourage thinking that sounds remarkably like the man in our story.

It supposes, as does the man in our story, that the true reason to live is to do nothing, or to please yourself.

NB most voluntary work is done by the newly retired. Many in retirement re-enter church as a way to get priorities right with God. There may be a certain amount of TEXT, but tempered by social busyness.

So we need to wake up – there is still much to do.

Ultimately we need to rely not on the good in life, but the God in life. Great is thy faithfulness!