

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: COrdinary 18x2019

Texts: [Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23](#) • [Psalm 49:1-12](#) • [Colossians 3:1-11](#) • [Luke 12:13-21](#)

SELF Smart (D2)

"Self-knowledge and the ability to act adaptively on the basis of that knowledge. This intelligence includes having an accurate picture of oneself (one's strengths and limitations); awareness of one's inner moods, intentions, motivations, temperaments, and desires; and the capacity for self-discipline, self-understanding, and self-esteem." - Chapter 1 of *Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom, 4th Edition*, by Thomas Armstrong

Perhaps the most severely underutilized intelligence in cultural Christianity in the U.S.

Text: **Luke 12: 13-21**

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

14 But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" 15 And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

16 Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. 17 And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' 18 Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' 20 But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
SELF smart		<p>Vs. 13 - This is a little passive aggressive maybe? Here's a brief article about that from Psychology Today.</p> <p>It is also triangulation, bringing a third party into an anxiety producing</p>	<p>Vs. 15 - Be on guard: Take some time this week to do some internal inventory to see where you are vulnerable to greed. Is it cash? Cars? Gadgets? Achievement? Admiration? What sort of things do you stockpile?</p>

		<p>situation to be on your side. Here's a little bit about that at wikipedia.</p> <p>How do you feel when someone tries these sorts of tactics? How often do you resort to them? Can you imagine a healthier way of interacting?</p>	<p>Try to identify where that soft spot comes from. Then imagine ways that you can begin to guard against it.</p> <p>Or, once you identify your soft spot, try to imagine and discern how you could glorify God with it instead of building up your stockpile.</p>
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Text: Colossians 3:1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. 7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.

8 But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices 10 and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. 11 In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
SELF smart			<p>Vs. 2 - lead your folks in a guided meditation, first acknowledging their “things that are on earth,” then moving to contemplate the “things that are above.”</p> <p>Here is a meditation on vs. 12-14, which is next week, but it will give you an idea of the form.</p> <p>Here is a meditation on visualization from ChristAudio.com, again as an example of what you might use. Please note this one is explicitly copyrighted.</p> <p>Here is a meditation from Encounter on vs. 2.</p>

Text: 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.

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
SELF smart	You could just read the whole thing if you are going to use it. It's only another 8 verses, and they drive the point home pretty well.	<p>Have you ever noticed the ways that people talk about death without saying "death?"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deceased• Passed away• Passed to the other side• No longer with us• Gone to their reward• Paid the ultimate price• As one insurance company used: "CTB" - that is, "ceased to breathe" <p>Why might that be?</p> <p>Is it more morbid to speak plainly about death or to fear even saying the word?</p>	How do you react when people talk about death? Does the attitude behind it matter? For example this is very matter of fact and pragmatic. Is that more or less troubling?

Text: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

12 I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, 13 applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. 14 I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

18 I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me 19 —and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. 20 So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, 21 because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. 22 What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? 23 For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
SELF smart		<p>What are the options when you ponder your own mortality? Mostly these:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Accept that you will one day die and be at peace2) Accept that you will one day die and find more meaning in the days you have3) Resent that you will one day die and fight a losing battle4) Despair that you will one day die and give up <p>The promise of eternal life can move one toward 1 or 2, but in some sense that is avoiding the question. So can the proclamation of eternal</p>	<p>If you were going to write a soliloquy or psalm on human mortality, how would it go? Where might you begin, and where might you end? (That is the question.)</p>

		<p>life in Christ actually lead us to be dishonest about our relationship to death? Each one must evaluate one's own faith to see if it is acceptance or escapist.</p> <p>Hamlet pondering mortality in his soliloquies and ponderings - "To be, or not to be" and "Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him, Horatio...."</p> <p><i>See also WORD for literature.</i></p>	
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