## Planned Giving & Trust Services



## Hoarder

## By Kris Coffin Stevenson

Jesus was not a hoarder. He did not hoard money, houses, or gold. He did not even hoard his own life. He gave it up freely for us. "If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it" (Matthew 16:25) When he died, he had no possessions of value except for a robe.



Jesus wasn't a hoarder, or was he?

He didn't have just one bestie; he had 12. He didn't train just 12 followers; he trained 72. He didn't just bring the message of the Kingdom of God to the people of Israel; he wanted to include the people of Samaria, the residents of the Decapolis (even the crazy ones in the tombs), and the pagan women of the Syrian north country. His neighbors from his hometown of Nazareth tried to kill him when he announced that the good news was also for the people outside of the house of Israel.

The citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven don't need to spend their time worrying about accumulating real property on this earth. God knows that we need food, clothes, and shelter so that we can survive. He warns us that spending time amassing the treasures of this earth dilutes our focus from the purpose of doing our Master's business.

But there is something that Jesus instructed his followers to collect. He told them to make disciples wherever they went. He wanted Peter to be a fisherman, not so that he could fill his boat to overflowing with fish, but so that he could fill his life to overflowing with followers of Christ. He reassures us that his Father's house has many rooms that he is preparing so that we can all gather there together.

Be like Jesus; be a hoarder.



## **Estate Management Tips**

Keep all your important documents in one place. That might be a file in a file cabinet or a folder or binder in a drawer. But whatever method you use, make sure you label it clearly with something like "Agatha Alabaster Montgomery's Most Important Life Documents" (using your own name of course.) Originals like titles and deeds are best kept in a safe deposit box at the bank or in an inexpensive fireproof box you can keep at home. Keep copies of those originals with your other important documents.