**WHAT DO YOU TREASURE?**

**Matthew 6:19-24**

**AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS WE SHOULD PURSUE HEAVENLY TREASURES OVER EARTHLY TREASURES**

* Jesus - *“Don’t store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal.”* (Matthew 6:19-20)
* **There is nothing this world has to offer that will outlast, or satisfy us more than, what the Lord has in store for His children in Heaven.**
* *“So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”* (Colossians 3:1-2)
* **When you are a born again child of God with a Kingdom mentality, your desires shift from the temporary gratifications to the eternal pleasures that only the Lord can provide.**

**WHAT WE PURSUE REVEALS WHERE OUR HEART IS TRULY COMMITTED**

* Jesus - *“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”* (Matthew 6:21)
* **An examination of your bank accounts and credit card statements will reveal the condition of your heart.**
* **According to Jesus, we spend our time and money on what we love the most. What does your time and spending say about your love for the Lord?**

**WE MUST HAVE A SINGULAR FOCUS ON GOD OVER EVERYTHING ELSE**

* Jesus - *“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light within you is darkness, how deep is that darkness!”* (Matthew 6:22-23)
* **A “healthy eye” that leads to being “full of light” is representative of a person who keeps their focus on God, rather than having impaired vision by trying to focus on God and material things like money and possessions at the same time.**
* Jesus - *“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, and even his own life—he cannot be my disciple.”* (Luke 14:26)
* **Jesus calls people to follow Him with an unparalleled focus on His calling and His Kingdom.**

**WE MUST HAVE A SINGULAR ALLEGIANCE TO GOD OVER EVERYTHING ELSE**

* Jesus - *“No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”* (Matthew 6:24)
* **While there is certainly nothing wrong with pursuing wealth, or a better income, the motivation of that pursuit reveals whether you love God over money and materialism.**
* *“Instruct those who are rich in the present age not to be arrogant or to set their hope on the uncertainty of wealth, but on God, who richly provides us with all things to enjoy. 18 Instruct them to do what is good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share, 19 storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of what is truly life.”* (1 Timothy 6:17-19)
* **If, or when, you are blessed financially, you are blessed to be a blessing to others, especially through investing in God’s Kingdom agenda.**
* Jesus - *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. 38 This is the greatest and most important command.”* (Matthew 22:37-38)

**CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Icebreaker: What item do you own that you truly value? Explain**

**Observation**

* How does Jesus contrast earthly treasures vs. heavenly treasures?
* What does Jesus say about the link between what we treasure and our hearts?
* What is the overarching message of Matthew 6:19-24?

**Digging Deeper**

* Why is it so easy to value earthly treasures over heavenly treasures?
* Based on Matthew 6 (and the past few sermons) how do you store up treasures in heaven?
* What does your spending reveal about what you treasure most?
* What about money makes it a potential “master” over people? (vs.24)
* How do you/can you increase your desire for devotion to God and His Kingdom work and lessen your desire for material things?
* How have you been challenged and/or encouraged by this study?

**Loving Outward:**

* Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
* Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
* Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?