

When The Kingdom Comes
“Treasure and Trust”
The Sermon on the Mount #6
Matthew 6:19-34

INTRODUCTION

In these passages from the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord addresses both our treasures and our trust, which we find are closely linked. When we really make Jesus the “King” of our “kingdom,” we begin to realize that we have very little to worry about. Our concerns will be more about faithful with the stewardship of our possessions, than in the frantic attempts to try to protect them. In this lesson we consider what we treasure and who we trust.

Ice Breaker (Optional – 8 MIN): If you were told to evacuate your home in an emergency, what is the first thing you would take?

STUDY QUESTIONS (45 MIN)

Q1. Read Matthew 6:19 – 21, Luke 12:16-21, 1 Timothy 6:17
Each of us has a unique perspective on what we find highly valuable: possessions, relationships, achievements, etc. What is it about our earthly “treasures” which creates conflict with our faith walk?

Q2. Read Matthew 6:22-24, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
These verses emphasize keeping our focus on God rather than worldly things. What do you think characterizes a life of someone whose eyes are fixed on money? How is the life of a servant of God different?

Q3. Read Proverbs 3:9-10, Malachi 3:10
God really doesn’t need our money, but he has put principals into place to foster our trust in Him, and to draw us into in His Kingdom work. When we are faithful to God and honor Him with our resources, what can we expect to result in our lives? What prevents us from doing so?

Q4. Read Matthew 6:25-31, Philippians 4:6-7
Some of us may view worry as an expression of our caring, but it really exposes areas where we believe that we must handle something that we feel God cannot or will not. What causes you the greatest anxiety in your life? Do you believe that God is able to take care of it?

Q5. Read Matthew 6:33-34, Proverbs 3:5-6
If we are seeking satisfaction from things, we have lost our heavenly focus. What does it mean to trust God and seek first His kingdom (rule and reign) and righteousness in your life? What should be our motivation to do so? What secondary benefits do we receive?

WRAP-UP

It all comes down to a matter of trust. Do we trust God with our resources? Can He provide for our needs? Will He resolve our problems? Does He really love us? Or do we put more trust in our own ability to care for our own needs and solve our own problems, in essence saying “I don’t need you God.” We must decide who we live for, what we trust in and where we place our treasures.

Memory Verse

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21 NIV

PRAYER (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life: _____

Pray for your group members’ needs:

Challenge:

If there is an area in which you have not yet conquered your anxiety, prepare yourself in advance. When you find yourself having anxious thoughts- pray, petition God in the matter and give Him thanks for His great love and faithfulness. Then trust Him to carry it for you.

Q1.

Matthew 6:19-21 NIV - 19 "Do not 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 moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Luke 12:16-21 NIV - 16 And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. 17 He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' 18 "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'" 20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' 21 "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

1 Timothy 6:17 NIV - 17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

Q2.

Matthew 6:22-24 NIV - 22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NIV - 16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on

what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Q3.

Proverbs 3:9-10 NIV - 9 Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Malachi 3:10 NIV - 10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

Q4.

Read Matthew 6:25-31 in your bibles

Philippians 4:6-7 NIV - 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Q5.

Matthew 6:33-34 NIV - 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV - 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.