

Kingdom Citizens –The Sermon on the Mount-Lesson 14

Women of Grace | GraceLife Church

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. --Matthew 6:19-24

Day 1—Verse 19

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. --Matthew 6:19

1. What does it mean to lay up treasures? Why are we not supposed to lay up earthly ones?
2. Read Ecclesiastes 5:10-17. What do we learn about laying up earthly treasures from this passage?

3. Is Jesus forbidding the owning of property, having possessions, or having a savings account? Why or why not?
4. Is having wealth sinful? Why or why not?
5. What are some earthly treasures that we might lay up? (This could include things that are not material possessions.)
6. What is our heart motivation when we desire to accumulate wealth or possessions?
7. What will eventually happen to our earthly treasures?

Heart check:

- How important is money to you?
- Are you always striving to make more money?
- How do you respond when one of your possessions is taken from you? This can reveal your heart and what you treasure.

Day 2—Verse 20

But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; --Matthew 6:20

1. What are our treasures in heaven?
2. How do we lay them up, what does this look like practically?
3. What does 1 Peter 1: 3-5 teach us about heavenly treasures verses fleeting earthly treasure?

4. How does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:3-4 connect to this passage?
5. In verses 19 and 20, two kinds of treasures are being laid up; one is forbidden and one is commanded. What are the differences between the treasures?
6. Is Jesus contradicting verses like Titus 2:5 that tell us to keep our home, which includes things like decorating, cleaning, organizing, and food preparation, all things that require money and thought?
7. What were the holy women of old focused on?

Day 3—Verse 21

for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. --Matthew 6:21

1. How does our culture encourage us to accumulate earthly treasures?
2. From 1 Tim. 6:9-10, where does the pursuit of riches lead us?
3. Who in Scripture was devoted to storing up earthly treasure and where did that lead them?
4. How can our earthly spending show where our heart is and what we are devoted to?

5. What must we do if we are tempted to lay up earthly treasures rather than heavenly ones?

6. How can we know which treasures we are laying up, earthly ones or heavenly ones?

7. What is the heart issue(s) of someone who lays their treasure on earth?

Heart Check:

- Where are you laying up treasures? Are there any earthly treasures that you are unwilling to lay aside?
- What do you spend your time doing? Where do you spend your money? These things can show us where our treasure truly is.

Day 4—Verse 22-23

“The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! --Matthew 6:22-23

1. What is Jesus teaching in this metaphor?
2. According to Hebrews 12:2, where are we to fix our eyes? Why is this so important?
3. John MacArthur says, “An eye that is clear represents a heart that has single-minded devotion,” and “The eye that is bad is the heart that is self-indulgent.” How can these quotes help us understand what Jesus is saying to us? How can you apply this in your own life?
4. What does Matt. 16:26 teach us about the pursuit of earthly treasures?

5. A Jewish person who was stingy and gave in a begrudging way was said to have an evil eye, how does that expression relate to this verse?

6. Read Luke 16:14-15.
 - a. What do these verses tell us about the people Jesus was speaking to?

 - b. What do these verses tell us about human nature?

 - c. How might these verses apply to us today?

Heart check:

- Do you have a divided heart? Or are you single-minded in your devotion to Christ as evidenced in how you spend your time, money, thoughts, etc.?
- Are you chasing wealth or Christ? Are you learning more about fashion, decorating, gadgets, beauty, baking, and trends then you are learning of Christ by His Word?

Day 5—Verse 24

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth. --Matthew 6:24

1. Why can you not serve two masters (slave owners)?

2. The word translated here as money is mammon in Greek.
 - a. Define mammon.

 - b. How does this definition help you to better understand Jesus' statement that we cannot serve both God and money (mammon)?

3. What do these verses teach us about a proper view of money and possessions?
 - a. Job 31:24-28

b. Psalm 50:10-11

c. Proverbs 30:8-9

d. Jeremiah 9:23-24

e. Luke 12:15-21

f. 1 Timothy 6:17-18

4. We might be tempted to read this passage as a warning to the wealthy, but how is this passage equally applicable to the poor?

5. How does this passage refute the teachings of the prosperity gospel?

6. Maybe you do not struggle with a love of money; what other masters might you be serving?

Heart check:

- We live in a culture that worships wealth and the pursuit of wealth. Examine your heart and motivations. Do you have a clean conscience before God when it comes to how you earn and spend your money?

Dig Deeper:

- Listen to Pastor Mike's sermon from Ecclesiastes 5 <https://gracelife.ca/sermons/what-will-you-look-to/>.