

Getting to the Heart of Your Money

Matthew 6:22-24 Bethel Bible Church June 7, 2020

Well intentioned Christians struggle meshing their faith and their possessions. Covetousness and greed are far greater enemies of our soul's joy than we are aware or care to admit. What is one of the greatest distinctives that sets a Jesus follower apart from those who do not know Jesus? Jesus answer would certainly include how they deal with money and possessions.

Jesus gives 3 concrete metaphors, each illustrating a principle that equips us to earn, give, save and spend in a way that advances God's kingdom and glory.

3 Questions to get to the heart of your money:

1. Where is your treasure? 19-21

19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

2. What are you looking at? 22-23

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, 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. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

Note the illustration – *The eye is the lamp of the body*

Note the warning – *If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!*

Myopia is a form of impaired vision that is not able to see clearly things _____.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, 19 thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

3. Who is your master? 24

24 "No one can serve two masters, for 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 God and money.

Note the illustration – *No one can serve two masters*

Note the warning – *You cannot serve God and money.*

Divided loyalty is not better than _____. Jesus helps us over that hump by identifying divided loyalty as _____.

Luke 18:22-30 22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

Getting to the heart of your treasure . . .

As we prepare our hearts for the Lord's Table, let's confess and renew our loyalty to Jesus over all else.

Remembering that . . .

1. Your heart follows your treasure . . . therefore lay up treasures in heaven – invest in eternity.
2. Your life focus can be shortsighted regarding your treasure . . . therefore keep your focus on Christ.
3. Your tendency is always toward divided loyalty . . . therefore love and worship God passionately.

What I want to do, use or remember from my time of worship, exposure to God's Word and reflection at the Lord's Table today . . .