



Live the Dream
Joseph: A Life Shaped by God

Matthew 6:19-21; 2 Corinthians 5:10

May 29, 2011

Don't Waste Your Life!

John 12:43 "For they loved praise from men more than praise from God!"

The Treasure Principle (Randy Alcorn): You can't take it with you, but you can send it on ahead.

"Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last."-C. T. Studd

Six Keys to understanding The Treasure Principle:

I. *The Treasure Principle: God owns everything and you are his trusted steward.*

A. *What is a steward? A steward is one who is put in charge of an estate; it is one who is responsible for taking care of property or assets.*

B. *What is our responsibility? We are to be faithful with what God has entrusted to us!*

*"I believe God made me for a purpose...and when I run, I feel His pleasure."
-Eric Liddell*

C. *God made us to give!*

II. *Your heart will follow where you put God's money. Verse 21*

A. *The place our money is going simply reveals where our heart already is.*

B. *When God has your heart, He will change the desires of your heart!*

III. *Heaven, not earth, is your home.*

A. *The Bible says that we are strangers and aliens on earth.*

B. *Paul writes in Philippians 3:21 that "our citizenship is in heaven."*

IV. *Don't live for the dor, but for the line. (James 4:14)*

A. *Life is short.*

B. *Our life is represented by the dot. Eternity is represented by the line.*

V. *Giving is the only antidote for materialism.*

A. *We need to give.*

B. *Giving is important because of what it does for us.*

1. *It serves as a vivid reminder that it's all about God.*

2. *Giving affirms that Christ is Lord.*

3. *Giving is a choice we make that actually changes our hearts.*

4. *Giving serves to break the stranglehold that materialism has on us.*

"I have held many things in my hands and I have lost them all. But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess."—Martin Luther

*"Earn all you can, save all you can, and then give all you can. Never try to save out of God's cause; such money will canker the rest. Giving to God is no loss; it is putting your substance into the best bank. Giving is true having, as the old gravestone said of the dead man, "What I spent I had, what I saved I lost, what I gave I have."
-Charles Spurgeon*

VI. *God prospers you not to raise your standard of living, but to raise your standard of giving. (Malachi 3:8-10)*

A. *Here is the one area where we can test God—in our giving.*

The Day we stand before the Lord!!! (2 Cor 5:10; I Cor 3:10-15)

"Today, let us rise and go to our work. Tomorrow, we shall arise and go to our reward." -Richard Fuller

◆ *Good works do not save but they do determine your reward.*

◆ *What determines if a work has eternal value? God will look at the motives in our hearts.*

"Before the judgment seat of Christ my service will not be judged by how much I have done but by how much of me there is in it."—A.W. Tozer