



RESOURCES FOR GROUPS

TITLE: Trouble with Treasures

TEXT: Matthew 6:19-24

DATE: February 28, 2021

SPEAKER: Pastor Brian Berg

COMMUNITY BUILDING:

- If you had a million dollars given to you today, no strings attached and no taxes owed, what would you do with it?

CHRIST-CENTERED DISCUSSION:

Bold indicates zoom friendly OR to be used with spiritual growth partners. *Italicized green text is the leader guide.*

- Were you able to pray more "kingdom-oriented" prayers this week? Did you witness any answers?
Oftentimes, answers to prayers like these can seem long in coming or imperceptible to us. It's not the same as praying for daily bread that we can see and taste. How can you keep persistent in praying for the things closest to God's heart?
- How do people serve possessions or become "pressed into the world's mold" (Romans 12:2) regarding their stuff?
You could also look at Luke 12:13-21, the story of the rich young fool. How attached was he to his wealth? What did that mean for him? How did "having it all" actually limit his life?

The following sections contain questions in the 3 areas Pastor Brian preached about on Sunday: Trouble and Wisdom. Focus on one of the areas and ask all the questions or pick one question from each area to lead your group time this week.

Trouble with Treasures

- Someone has said, "I have never seen a hearse pulling a U-Haul trailer." Discuss the connection of that statement to Matthew 6:19-24.
- **What is the biblical meaning of "heart"? What does Jesus mean when he said our treasure is where our heart is in Matthew 6:21? Where is your heart?**
The "heart" is the center of one's being, our emotions, reason, will, values. Jesus is saying that what you set your heart on and focus your gaze upon is the direction your life will take. That's why focusing on the temporary treasures of earth is dumb and dangerous. It will lead you toward something that ultimately has no value.

- How does the choice of earthly treasures instead of God affect our attitude, outlook toward life according to Matthew 6:25-34? How could it define our life?

Wisdom with Treasures

- **According to Deuteronomy 8:18, how do people get wealth and for what purpose? How can we "remember the Lord" in regard to our treasures?**
God gives people the ability to gain wealth. Because of that, we should consult him on how we use it. Talk about habits you have in place to deal with your wealth in a God-honoring, kingdom-advancing way.
- What opportunities has God placed in your path where you can use your treasures for Kingdom purposes?
- Read Luke 16:10-15 together. How does this passage say we should handle money so as to maximize our reward and responsibility in heaven?
- How do you currently maintain an eternal (kingdom) perspective when it comes to money and possessions?

FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING:

- Individually or as a group, consider how "Trouble with Treasures" will impact how you live this week and moving forward. What practical applications can you begin to practice this week? Pray for the power of the Spirit to equip you to do it.
- The Joyful Journey resource page on our website has many Faithfully Following pieces.