

You are What You Treasure



Matthew 6:19–24

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Scripture

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

Two weekends ago, we took our boys and our little girl to a Cardinals baseball game. Now, the reason that's kind of odd is because we don't watch baseball, we don't follow baseball, and none of my kids has ever played baseball. We are a more of a basketball family. Baseball is just not something that we ever really did but the in-laws love baseball, love Cardinals, and they have taken me and Katie to a few games. I love going to a Major League Baseball game. It's awesome, but I don't watch it on TV. So, we tell the kids that Grammy and Pappy are going to take us to a Cardinals game and all of the kids protested. None of them wanted to go,

and so we are like, "I promise it's going to be great." But as we are loading in the van my boys are asking, "Can we stay at home? Can you just leave us here? We don't like baseball. Baseball's boring. Nothing's going to happen. We are going to sit there. It's going to be so boring. We don't want to go." I am having to like convince my kids to go to a Major League Baseball game, which I never thought would have to happen, but I'm having to convince them and they are not convinced. So we make the drive and it takes six hours to get to Saint Louis because of wrecks and traffic. It was insane. We get there to the game and they are playing the Yankees. It's a Friday night. This is like all bells and whistles and it is going to be awesome. We go in, we give our ticket, and we get to the little booth that sells shirts and hats so our first stop is to get some gear because we don't have anything. So we have to line the kids up so they can pick out their hats and when it gets to Crider, he says, "No. I don't want one." I'm like, "You don't want a Cardinals baseball hat?? "No, I don't want one. I'm good." In his mind, he didn't even want to pretend he's been there, not even something in his closet that says he once went to a baseball game. That's how much he is protesting against going to this baseball game, "I like Giannis and the Bucks, basketball, that's it!" so he doesn't get a hat. We walk towards our seats and Katie says, "Hey, I guarantee you by the end of the game he's going to want a hat." I'm like, "Hmm, you might be right." Now, if you've been to a baseball game, you know how the whole thing goes. It's just the smells, the taste, like everything is awesome, right? You get the hot diet—you get the popcorn, you get the cotton candy, you get the peanuts, the whole experience is just awesome. We had great seats. We had some friends that came and we were with Grammy and Pappy. Then it starts... there was that crack of the bat, and Crider sees how big it is, how fast it is. I can tell all the kids are into it, but especially Crider. He is sitting by Pappy and Pappy is telling him all the strategy of the game, and Crider loves like strategy so he's trying to figure it out. He is just getting fascinated with the whole game. I can see it in his eyes; he is loving this whole experience. The Cardinals win, they beat the Yankees, which is just icing on the cake. It was incredible. The game is over and fireworks shoot up. Then we are all exiting along with mass amounts of people, and as we are all going out the door, we get to that little stand

that sells hats. We don't say a word. We are walking right by it and about we get up to it and Crider says, "Hey, dad, do you think I can get a hat before we go?" "Yeah, yeah, I got you." So, he goes and picks out a Cardinals' hat, puts it on, and he has a smile on his face like he is a proud Cardinals fan.

What happened? Three hours before, he was protesting and not wanting any of his friends to know he went to this game, and now he wants a hat. The next night, we are on our couch watching the Cardinals and the Yankees on TV with his hat on. What happened? Well, he got in this environment and he started to see things. He started to feel things. He spent some time in a Major League Stadium, which is designed for all of our senses. It's designed to pull at your heart. And now he started treasuring this game of baseball, this team. All of a sudden, before he even knew it, he walks out of the stadium a raving Cardinals fan with a hat on. He changed in that moment. What changed him? He started to treasure something. He started to value something. He started to see something that he hadn't seen before and it had worth, and it was good, and so he started treasuring it. And then when he treasured it, there his heart went. When it got his heart, all of a sudden, he's hooked and he's a new boy. He's now a Cardinals fan.

That is the power of what we treasure we become. Jesus is talking to a group of people and that's what He is going to tell them. He says it's really important to watch out for what you treasure, what you value, what you think is great, what you give your time and attention to, what grabs your eyeballs. It's really important that you know what you treasure, because the thing you treasure has your heart, and what has your heart has all of you. And that thing you treasure, you become like. So, I think Jesus going to say you have to watch because you might just walk into a stadium unaware and walk out with a baseball cap on, and not even know how you got here. Some of you right now are loving things, living for things, living life in a certain way, and you are not even sure how you got here. You are stressed, you are worried, and you are anxious, and all these things are filling your life and you are not even sure why you are wearing a hat. It's because you started to treasure, little by little, something other than the

glory of Christ. And the more you treasure something else, the more your heart drew towards those things, and the more you became like those things, rather than becoming more and more like Christ. So we are going to have to do some work this morning in our hearts to make sure that we treasure the right thing.

Now, I know some of you are saying, "Kory, you got hit in the head this week because we have already preached these verses three weeks ago." Well, what Pennington will say is these verses are like a bridge, they have to do with what was just said about secret devotion. Having secret devotion of prayer, fasting, and giving, we should do those things in secret not to be seen by men; therefore, lay up treasures in Heaven not on earth because what you treasure your heart will follow. So it is sort of ending that. But what we are going to see is, in the next two sections, really the next three sections that we'll get to next week all have to do with treasure. It has to do with what you seek, what you love. We are going to see that this is actually part of the verses we are going to study, so we have to sort of double click and remind ourselves what Jesus said about laying up treasure because the treasure part is going to be really important for the next section of verses. So let's just remind ourselves what Jesus says, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth." Why is that? Well, we learned three weeks ago it is because of moth, rust, and thieves. All the treasure on the earth is eventually going to go away. We can't keep it forever. Either it leaves us or we leave it. It's going to go away at some point. Therefore, lay up treasures in Heaven because nothing can touch those treasures you have in Heaven, those things you have with the Lord.

Jesus is saying 'do not' and 'do this.' For some of us, we don't like 'do not.' We don't like being told no. When somebody says no to us, we automatically don't like it. So when Jesus says, "do not lay up..." we are like, why is He telling us not to do something? Does He not want us to have something? Does He not want us to experience something? Does He want to limit our pleasure? Does He want to limit our happiness? That's what 'do not' sounds like. 'Do not' sounds like don't be happy—don't do this.

In our house, we have a snack cabinet that when you open the doors they squeak, which is great for the kids because we know when they are getting snacks. It's bad for me because I can't sneak anything because Katie hears and says, "What are you doing?" "Uh nothing...just checking the hinges, just making sure it's all working good." But the squeak is really effective with our kids because kids love snacks. Kids love sugary snacks like they love Pop Tarts midday, snack bars filled with sugar, or handfuls of cereal. Kids love snacks. What often happens is that I will hear the squeak and then I'll hear my wife in another room say, "DO NOT EAT A SNACK!" Of course, when you tell the kid, they are like, "Why?" They protest, "I'm hungry. I'm going to die." Then there is the drama, "Do not eat a snack." And then, there is a 'because.' The 'because' is, "Because I'm about to fix dinner." It is not do not eat a snack because I don't care that you are hungry; it's do not eat snack because you are going for a pop tart but spaghetti is coming, or tacos are coming, fillets are coming, or fish is coming. There is something better coming and you need to have room in your stomach for what's about to be here. A meal is coming that is better than a snack and you have to make room for the meal you are about to have.

See, Jesus says do not lay up for yourselves treasure in Heaven. Why? Well, because He wants you to make room for better treasure. He wants you to make room for something better. Notice what he says, "...instead, lay up for yourself treasure in Heaven...*For* where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." So don't lay up treasure on the earth, don't chase all the things of the earth, don't put all of your time and energy into just those things, but instead, lay up treasure in Heaven. What exactly does laying up treasure in Heaven mean? I love what Piper says about it. He says. "Laying up for yourself treasure in Heaven would be living in such a way to maximize God as your treasure, handling your money in such a way as to show that God and not money is your treasure." Jesus talked a lot about money in this text and what we do with our wealth, and He isn't going to say money is bad. Money is not bad. Money is a good gift from God. It's what we do with it that can become good or bad. How do we use it? Do we use it to maximize the glory of God or do we use it to lay up for ourselves treasures on this earth because we seek those first.

So, why would He say don't lay up treasure, don't spend all of your time worried about right now stuff, but instead worry about me, seek me as your treasure? Why would He say that? Well, because He knows wherever your treasure is, there your heart's going to be. Just like the squeaky cabinet, Pop Tarts are good but fillet is better, and if you eat too many Pop Tarts, you are not going to want fillet. You are going to miss out. Jesus is saying don't miss out on little treasure when big treasure, great treasure, perfect treasure, is offered to you. Don't spend your life this way. Make room so you can have room to enjoy and wonder, and be about Him. And we are going to see is this idea of where your treasure is there your heart will be—whatever you treasure, whatever you love, that's what you will become. Crider walked in the stadium and left wearing a hat. He became something different because he treasured something different. He was attuned to something different. What we treasure we ultimately become, so we have to watch what we treasure. Jesus, in the same book in Matthew, is going to tell us that treasure has to do with the gospel. The good news of Jesus—treasure has to do with that.

I want to show you. Often when we think about the Lord, coming to Christ, we think about coming to Christ as your Lord and Savior. He is Lord, He is in control, He is your Savior, He saves you from your sins. Those things are true, but also it's not just that we come to Jesus as Lord and Savior. A Christian, a true believer, comes to Jesus as treasure, as ultimate treasure, as the best thing in the universe. I'll show you where Jesus gives that to us. Matthew 13:44. "The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure..." Notice the connection between the word, treasure, in both passages. The Kingdom of Heaven is like what? Treasure. Does that sound familiar? Don't what? Chapter 6, lay up treasure on earth but lay up treasure in Heaven. In chapter 13, He says the Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure. He is comparing the Kingdom of Heaven, which by the way, that's the gospel, the good news of who He is and what He has done, that is His rule and reign is over the whole earth and you should come under that—that's the Kingdom of God. What is it like? He says it's like "treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy, he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

I think this is one of the best places in Scripture that gives us what it looks like to become a Christian; it's becoming this guy. Here is a guy who comes upon a field, and while he's walking through it he stumbles upon something. He uncovers it and he realizes there is a chest. He flings the chest lid open and there are diamonds, rubies, and money. It's unlimited wealth; it is treasure he finds in this field. He stumbles upon it, which was common in Jesus' day because they didn't have banks like we do. They would actually hide money in the ground, and then grandpa got a little loopy and forgot where he hid the money and nobody knows where grandpa left it. Well, this guy finds grandpa's treasure and it's worth a whole lot. This guy also notices that there is a for sale sign on the field. He looks at the price and he calculates in his head, and he realizes this field basically costs the amount of money of his entire life's worth. So if he were to sell his house, drain his bank account, sell all of his cars, all of his donkeys, sell the kids, just get rid of everything, then he would have enough money to buy that field. The Bible says he covers the treasure up. He hides it and then he goes home and he puts a for sale sign on his farm, his house, and his tractor. He puts all of his stuff in a yard sale. He clears out his bank account, his 401K retirement, and sells his beach house, everything. He is selling every single thing he owns. And you know what? Jesus says he did this in his joy. He had a smile on his face. Can you imagine what his neighbors are thinking...*what's going on? Why would you sell this? This is everything you have!* They would have thought he's crazy because he's selling everything that's valuable to him, but with a smile on his face and joy in his heart, he goes and sells everything that he has and now he has nothing left to his name. He takes that money, goes to the owner of the field, hands him all his money, gets the deed, and now he owns this empty field that seems worthless. But in the field, there is what? Treasure, treasure that is worth more than every single thing he owns—treasure that is worth infinity compared to what he used to own. So for this guy, it was a great deal. To everyone else it looked like he was crazy, but he's not crazy, he found something better. He found something worth more than his whole life. So he gave up his whole life, everything he had to get that thing that was better. That is what Jesus says the Kingdom of Heaven is like. It's like when you and I find Jesus and we actually see Him

for who He is. He is not just our Savior, He's not just our Lord—He is those things, but He is also the God of the universe who is the treasure of the universe. He is the most valuable being in the whole world, and when you understand that, when you comprehend that, you give up everything in your life because you want Jesus! Whatever it cost you, you lay it down because what you ultimately want is Him. He is your treasure. He is the one who is worth the most. He holds your affection. You want Him!

What I love about this little parable is Jesus says it is joy. He goes and sells all that he has. Why? Because to him the treasure in the field is worth more. It's a better deal, better trade, and that's what it looks like to come to faith in Jesus. We see Him as better than our lives. We see Him as better than our futures. We see Him as better than anything else this planet has to offer us, so we say Jesus I want you most. To come into the Kingdom it's about finding treasure, finding Jesus to be the treasure of your life, and then when you are in the Kingdom what do you do? You continue to seek Jesus as your treasure, because it's so easy to be captivated by all the little treasures of the world that we forget we actually have the greatest treasure, Christ. So we want to do is do the things that matter most—those people and relationships, those missions and those things that Christ has called us to, those ways to serve others around us, being of the Kingdom of God and the people of God, and doing the things of God—that is what real treasure is like.

So, the reason Jesus doesn't want you to spend your life treasuring the wrong thing is because whatever you treasure, there your heart will be. Now to the ancient, the heart wasn't just the thing that loves things. It was that, but it was also the emotion, the will, the intellect. It was, in a sense, your whole being. Jesus saying what you treasure, what you value, what you cherish, what you long after, and at the end of the day that thing is going to capture your whole life and you are going to become the very thing you treasure. So if you treasure all the things of the world, you will become just like the world. If you treasure Christ, in Christ, ultimately then, you will become more and more like Christ. What we treasure we become. What you love, you become like. So Jesus saying it's really important that

you get your treasure right, that you treasure the right thing, and the right thing is Christ.

But Notice, where your treasure is there your heart will be also. Well, how do we figure out what we treasure, and how do we guard ourselves against treasuring the wrong things, and to treasure the right things? Well, Jesus now goes into what Pennington will say is like an illustration, and then He is going to give an application. The illustration is about our eyes, the application is about who is our master. In the illustration, notice what Jesus says in verse 22, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, 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 in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!" We have just talked about treasure and not treasuring the wrong things. Treasure Christ because where your treasure is, there your heart will be. Jesus goes right from treasuring things to looking at things; He goes right to the eyes.

Now, in the scholarly world, there is a lot of debate about how the ancients would have viewed the eye. Jesus said the eye is a lamp to the body. What does that mean, exactly? Some scholars would say that to the ancient, light was seen as within us, that light comes *out* of us through the eye, and then goes *out*. What we typically think about is light coming *into* our eye and then going *into* our brain so we can see things. So there is a difference in maybe how we would see light and they would see light. There were all these sections about which one Jesus was talking about. Are our eyes letting light in, or are our eyes letting light out? Well, let's think about the big picture. Somebody sitting and listening to Jesus was probably not going to have a scholarly argument on that; they are probably going to say what is Jesus talking about. I think what Jesus talking about here is your eye is really small, but it's a really big deal. Your eye is one of your smallest members, but it's really important and it affects your entire body. For instance, if I asked all of you to close your eyes and file out of here with your eyes closed until you get to your car; you all know that be a train wreck, right? I mean, your eyes are small, but they sort of affect everything. If you can't see right, you are going to bump into things and you are going to fall, and it's just not going to be good.

Jesus says if your eye is healthy then your whole body is healthy; if your eye is evil, then your whole body is evil. What He is saying is the eye is a little thing but it affects every single thing. I think what Jesus is referring to, John Stott would say, the eye is talking about ambition. Those things that we long for, those things that we see will affect what we love, what we cherish, and what we go after. Therefore, we have be really careful with our eyes. We have be careful what we give our eyes to.

Now, that word, healthy, some of your Bibles translate it in different ways. A healthy eye—and scholars say the Greek is really strange and hard to decipher and many disagree, but basically, the word has to do with wholeness, with single mindedness—and in the context of money, treasure, and then masters, this is really the eye of generosity. It is an eye that is generous versus the evil eye that is, well, ungenerous, that is stingy, that is greedy. It's your eye, when you look out at the world, do you see others? Do you see ways to help? Do you see ways to be useful to use your time and energy and efforts to further the Kingdom of God because you are generous? Or, does your eye look and see and only want? That is a squinting eye, an eye that only sees you, an eye that's only worried about your stuff and your kingdom, versus the healthy eye that's an eye of generosity that sees the Kingdom of God, that sees God, that sees others, that is wholly devoted to God...it is not divided amongst all the things of the world. What Jesus trying to say is there is a connection between what you look at and what you treasure, and what you treasure, there your heart will be. So, we have to be really careful at what we give our eyes and attention to.

I was just thinking that Jesus is talking to a group of people who would have struggled with looking at other things and wanting to make their treasures the things of the world. They would have struggle with that. No doubt when they went home and passed by a boat of fishermen who have caught a great catch of fish, they thought...*man, I wish I could fish like that guy*. No doubt, there are ladies walking home and seeing another woman's house and thought...*man, I wish my husband would give me a house like that*. They are definitely doing that. They are coveting, they are looking at each other, and they are they are seeing things, they want to

treasure, want to put emphasis on the things of the world. They would be tempted to use their eyes to treasure the wrong thing and not see the glory of God and the help of neighbor. They would have done that.

Then I got to thinking, what about us? How different are we in this little section about our eyes? How much more temptation do we have with our eyes looking at things that lead us to treasure the wrong things? I mean, if we were in public right now, at the park or at a restaurant, just casually out and about, most of you wouldn't be looking up, you would be looking at your phone...scrolling. Not that that's a bad thing, but we just have to recognize we live in a different culture. We have a thing in our pockets that calls for our attention, and it says...I know you are bored, just swipe me. I know you are unhappy, I know you are depressed, just swipe and look and click and you will be happy. We have something that pulls at our eyes almost all of the time. It is an attraction to a screen that says this is what life is really about. If you will just look and stay on here, I can fulfill all of your hopes and all of your dreams, just keep looking down. It is not just our phones, we have TVs, we have billboards, we have everything saying here is all the treasures the world has, go get them and have fun because they will make you ultimately happy. So we have to really watch our eyes. We have to really make sure our eyes are whole and generous rather than divided and stingy, because we have things that captivate our eyes all the time.

I remember listening to a podcast where there was a Google executive who quit Google to start a non-profit organization to try to get parents to understand the dangers of smartphones, and especially games, especially social media. The thing with the phone and most of the things on them, you don't pay for. They are free. There's a reason—because you are paying in other ways. You are paying with your eyeballs. The only way that those things behind the screen make money is to keep you looking at them as long as you possibly can. And they are really, really good at it, because the longer you look down, the longer you click, the more ads it can sell—you are the user. And so, we were so captivated and they are so good, and this Google exec knew, and he was like...*our algorithms are really good. They are better than anyone could know. So, I'm just, I'm out, I'm*

checking out. What he saw is that a phone is not like watching TV. When you watch TV, no one is behind the screen watching you, but with the algorithms, something is behind the glass of your phone watching you and it knows you more than you know yourself. It knows what you like. It knows what time of day to give you the right thing to click on to keep you. It is really good at keeping your eyeballs looking at a screen all the time. Why? Because there are big dollars in advertising and it is coming through that screen, and the more you stay, the more they make off you. But what they use to hook you is often things that are not for the glory of God; they are for the glory of you. It's a constant bombardment of—this is what is true, this is what life is, this is what you need, this is what you should buy, this is where you should go, this is what she's doing, this is what he's doing, now you should do that. It's a constant pull for our eyes to tell us to treasure this and keep treasuring this because the longer you treasure it the more it will make you happy.

I am just saying for us to realize we live in a unique moment and we need to understand our moment, and we need to be aware of it. And as we look, and scroll (not that any of that is wrong, there is moderation in all things), what we have to watch is, are your eyeballs leading your heart to treasure something more than Christ? We have to check what our eyeballs are leading us to—and after a week, are you ever looking at the Word of God, or the people of God? Are you looking your neighbors in the face so that you can love good things and treasure good things? Or, are you always looking at the wrong thing and your heart is drawn to that because you are treasuring the wrong thing; you are becoming the wrong thing, and you don't even know what's happening? Jesus says your eye is a big part of it. If your eye is healthy, your whole body is going to be healthy, but if it's evil, if it's divided, then it's going to affect everything. Your whole person is affected by what you look at. Why is that? Because your eyes have to do with your longings.

John would tell us this in 1 John chapter 2, "For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever." Does

that sound like Jesus? The things of the world are flashy, but they are fading. The things of God last forever. It's the desires of our flesh, that's our passion, but then also the desires of our eyes, those things we look at, that we start to want and long after and we desire this life, and this thing, and this place, and this reality, and this retirement, and our eyes see what we want, and what we have to make sure is that we see the right thing. We have to see and behold the glory of Christ so that we become like Christ rather than becoming like the things of the world that are passing away.

So, what we look at leads to what we treasure. What we treasure, we become, and ultimately, when we become we start to serve. Notice what Jesus says next in our passage. In verse 24, He says, "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 both God and money." Jesus goes from treasure, from longing, to now serving. We are owned by something. We are either owned by our money or we are owned by our God. That term, master, it's not like two employers. No, you have two masters—they own you. This is Roman period. They had slavery in Rome, and you would be owned by someone and you had to be devoted and loyal to them. You couldn't have two masters; you had one master. Jesus using that imagery to show you can't serve God and money.

So, what does Jesus mean by money, and how do we serve or not serve money? Well, the King James Version says you can't serve both God and *mammon*. If you grew in a church, you have heard the word mammon. What is mammon? Well, that's why some of our Bibles translate it money, but the word Matthew uses is actually mammon. In their culture, they have this idea of mammon, and yes, it meant money, it meant wealth, but it's not just money, it's what money can give you; it's seeing money like a god. Money is what's going to give me security, value, status, power, retirement. It's going to be my comfort blanket. I don't really need anything else because I am secure because I have enough in my bank account, enough in my retirement that I have sheltered myself from all the evils of the world, so in a sense it's your savior. That's why Jesus is saying mammon. It's not that money is bad, money is a good gift. It is a good tool

to be used in great ways, but it's a really bad god. So He is saying you can't serve both God and mammon, and those things that money can offer you. If you run to it as an ultimate source, it will not satisfy you.

So, the question is, how do we serve money? How do we serve mammon? We are not supposed to. What does that even mean? Like, do you take dollar bills out and worship them? What does this even look like? How do you serve money? I thought money serves us. How can we get this backwards? What does it mean to serve money? Well, Jesus says in the text that you will either "hate the one or love the other, or be devoted to the one or despise the other." So serving has to do with two things—love and devotion. That's what serving looks like. That's what serving a master looks like. If your master is God, then you will have love and devotion towards God. You will love Him as treasure, ultimately, and you will be devoted to Him, His things, His mission, His people, and His Word, and you will live a life devoted to seeing and savoring Him, knowing Him more. That is the goal of your life. That's what gets you up in the morning. That's what puts you to bed at night. It's Him and Him alone. He is your devotion. You are loyal to Him. But if mammon is your master, then you love what it can give. Ultimately, you love the things it gives. You love the security it gives. You love the pleasure it gives. You love the feeling it gives. You love the status it gives. You love what all the things of it. You love it so much that in love you devote yourself to it, to protecting it, to making it, to using it, to thinking about it, to spending all of your time wrapped around it. See, your love leads to devotion, and all of a sudden, the only thing in life you really care about is not people, it's not neighbors, it's not God, it's not the Kingdom—what you ultimately love and treasure most is what wealth can give you.

Jesus is saying if that's you, then you can't also love God. You can't also be devoted to God. You will actually hate Him and despise Him. Why? Because often God calls us to do crazy things with our money, right? I mean, let's be honest, God has some crazy things for you to do with your money, and He will be like, you need to do this. You are like; no, that doesn't make sense, my accountant would not like that! God often disrupts us in our own safety, in our own things because the needs of the world are great and the

Kingdom of God needs to move forward. Now, I don't think Jesus is trying to say to His disciples that He care about the amount of money that you have. I don't think it's what we are dealing with. He's worried about the loyalty that you have, whether you are loyal to your money or you are loyal to God. It is not wrong to have money. It is not wrong to make money. I know plenty of people who have a lot of money who do amazing things for the glory of God. I know people who are broke and worship mammon. All they think about, all they dream about is money. So, it's not how much you have, it's your relationship with the money you do have.

What is your relationship with your things? What is your relationship with your stuff? What is your relationship with mammon? Are you generous? Do you look around and try to serve, try to do, give things away and help others? Or, is that relationship your status—what you ultimately put all of your stock in all of your life in? Well, Jesus says if that's what you treasure, then that's what you become. And ultimately, that leads to emptiness because at the end it will leave you or you will leave it. Jesus is trying to get us to treasure the right thing, to set your heart on the right thing. What is the right thing? It's Him. Treasure Him, and when you treasure Him, then the good gift that you have, the income you have, the stuff you have, the money you, guess what? It will be a good gift that you are able to enjoy and use, and not hold onto but be generous with, because you love God more than anything you have.

So, Jesus trying to get us to treasure the right thing because He knows that what we treasure, we ultimately become. Sometimes it's really subtle. Sometimes, we walk into a stadium and walk out a Cardinals' fan, and not even really even wonder what happened. Sometimes, it's just with our eyeballs and our longings and our desires, and our time, and our efforts. We look at the wrong things and we desire the wrong things, and we give our life to the wrong things. We treasure the wrong things, and then we become like the wrong things. So, what Jesus is asking is who is your master? Is it God or is it mammon? What do your eyeballs go to? What do you look at? What do you long for? What are you ambitious for? Is it just you? Or, is it what you can be used for the glory of God? Is it knowing Him, seeking Him, and finding Him because your eyeballs and what you

look at and what you long for will lead you to your treasure? What your treasure is, you become. If we only treasure the world, we will become like the world, but if we treasure Christ, we will become like Him. This week, let's check who our master is, what our eyes are leading us to, and what we ultimately treasure because if you can point to what you ultimately treasure, you can point to your whole life. What you treasure, there your heart will be also.