

Text: Matthew 6:19-24

Meaning: Jesus said you cannot serve God and money

Big Idea: You cannot serve God and money

Objective: I want the hearers to serve God and not money

Theme:

MOM-ISMS

- If I've told you once I've told you a million times
- DON'T "MOM" ME!
- IF YOU CAN STAY OUT LATE ON SATURDAY NIGHT YOU CAN GET UP ON SUNDAY MORNING
- If you can't say something nice then don't say anything at all
- Why?! Because I said so, that's why!
- What do you mean you can't find your....where did you lay them down at?
- Who do you think you are?
- Don't get smart with me young man!
- If I had a dollar for every time I told you that I'd be a millionaire
- Fair?! Newsflash – life isn't fair!
- I don't care what everyone else is doing, I'm not everyone else's mom
- If that were a snake it would have bitten you
- One day when you have kids of your own you will understand
- You are getting on my last nerve!
- I BROUGHT YOU INTO THIS WORLD AND I CAN TAKE YOU OUT!
- STOP THAT CRYING OR I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO CRY ABOUT

JESUS-ISMS

Don't store up treasures on earth. Store up treasure in heaven.

Where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

No one can serve two masters. You can't serve God and money.

TODAY WE ARE GOING TO TALK ABOUT STORING UP TREASURE IN HEAVEN – WHICH WE DO THROUGH GIVING!

Giving is one the most controversial topics in the church, yet Jesus will tell us in this passage IT IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT TOPICS.

Giving joke – Man walking into church one Sunday saw another friend from the church who was walking out of the church in his underwear. He said, "Frank, what in the world happened to you in there?" Frank said, "I'm not sure, but I know one thing. That's the best sermon on giving I've ever heard"

The goal today is not to TAKE THE SHIRT RIGHT OFF YOUR BACK.

Jesus says in Matthew 6 – Where your treasure is there your heart will be also. THIS IS A HEART ISSUE! WE DON'T FOLLOW OUR HEART. WE LEAD OUR HEART THROUGH GIVING.

TODAY – TALK ABOUT GIVING.

CONCLUSION – I'M GOING TO INVITE YOU TO BE A GIVER. I'M GOING TO INVITE YOU TO GIVE FINANCIALLY.

READ MATTHEW 6:19-24

Jesus tells us in this passage – DON'T STORE UP TREASURE ON EARTH. STORE UP TREASURE IN HEAVEN – HAVE A GOOD EYE – FOR YOU CANNOT SERVE BOTH GOD AND MONEY.

Jesus is addressing the excess of the Pharisees, not the crowd at large. The Pharisees pursued wealth, political influence, and notoriety. They wanted the seats of honor at the banquet. They wore the nicest clothing they could buy. They desired the nicest homes and the choicest food.

This is not an indictment on the crowd. This is an indictment on religious excess!

Keep in mind – these men didn't get to become Pharisees without knowing the Scriptures. They had to memorize and quote the Hebrew Scriptures meticulously. They knew the Bible, taught the Bible, and obeyed it outwardly, but inwardly Jesus said they were like ravenous wolves. Whitewashed tombs filled with dead men's bones.

They used religion for their own gain, not for the gain of the people they ministered to.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO SERVE MONEY?

WORKAHOLIC
UTILITARIAN RELATIONSHIPS
SCARCITY MINDSET
CONTENTION
STINGINESS

What some call FRUGALITY God just might call CARNALITY!

THE GOOD EYE – AYIN TOVAH

Lois Tverberg – WALKING IN THE DUST OF RABBI JESUS

Eye – Hebrew idiom that describes a person's attitude toward others. Having a "good eye" is to look out for the needs of others and be generous to the poor. Having a "bad eye" is to be greedy and self-centered, blind to the needs of others around you.

HEALTHY, GOOD – Haploous in the Greek, literally means GENEROUS

So storing up treasure in heaven or storing up treasure on earth is basically the same thing as having a good eye or bad eye. The person with the generous eye stores up eternal treasure. Treasure that multiplies, appreciates, grows forever, and brings with it true spiritual blessings. It brings joy and peace and life. The person with the stingy or self-centered eye loses everything. As Jesus says here – Oh how

deep is the darkness in the heart of the stingy person. A miser ends up walking a dark path of loneliness, brokenness, and hopelessness.

THE NON-GIVER IS ACTUALLY THE PERSON WHO LOSES NOT THE GIVER.

The eye – how should we view the world? (BELOW 3 POINTS ON ONE SLIDE TOGETHER)

The heart and the eye go hand in hand. How I view the world is indicative of the condition of my heart before God. As it says in **Proverbs 4:23** – Guard your heart with all diligence for from it flows the issues of life.

**EVERY PERSON IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD
EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GLORIFY GOD
EVERY PLACE IS UNDER THE REIGN OF GOD**

The eye – how should we relate to the world? (BELOW 3 POINTS ON ONE SLIDE TOGETHER)

**GENEROSITY
HOSPITALITY
SERVICE**

Hebrew laws on generosity

- Yearly tithes collected for the poor
- Farmers leave the edges of their fields unharvested for alien and widow to glean
- Loans given to those in need who to be given without interest
- Loans unable to be paid back in 7 years were to be forgiven

How do you store up treasure in heaven? (BELOW 3 POINTS ON ONE SLIDE TOGETHER)

SET YOUR HEART ON CHRIST

Generosity is born from a deep understanding of the gospel! When I consider all that Christ has done for me in the gospel it becomes my joy to worship Him through giving!

It was the GRACIOUS, GENEROUS ACT OF GOD in giving us the free gift of eternal life THAT TRANSFORMED OUR LIVES!

SO, NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF ONE ACT OF GENEROSITY TO TRANSFORM SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE!

If I fail to show compassion on the person who has made unwise choices, why should I expect God to show compassion to me when I make mistakes?

SET YOUR MIND ON THE WORD

Set your mind on the WORD not the WORLD

Romans 12:2 – Don't be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

WORLD SAYS – you need a new car to be happy, you deserve to be paid for what you've gone through, happiness comes with wealth, the more you buy that happier your life.

WORD SAYS – in your presence there is fullness of joy. Seek first His Kingdom and all these things will be added unto you. Give and it will be given back to you. The generous man will be blessed.

Romans 8:5-8

For those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have

their minds set on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ Now the mindset of the flesh is death, but the mindset of the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mindset of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God's law. Indeed, it is unable to do so. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

YOUR LIFE WILL FOLLOW THE DIRECTION OF YOUR THOUGHTS.

If my mind is set on this world – all the violence and lawlessness and sexual brokenness and political divisiveness – then I will be a critical and angry person. If my mind is set on how can I make the next dollar OR how can I get that nicer car or home OR how can I make my kid the next sports star OR how can I be noticed or applauded by others – then I will be a shallow and joyless person

SET YOUR EYES ON THE NEED

1 John 3:17-18

If anyone has this world's goods and sees a fellow believer in need but withholds compassion from him—how does God's love reside in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or speech, but in action and in truth.

You can't UNSEE it. See beyond yourself! Your budget, your bills, your dreams and plans

OPEN YOUR HAND TO GIVE

2023

Over \$250,000 to missions

28 Families relocate after the storm to the tune of over \$30K

Thousands of groceries away to hundreds of families

Hundreds of families through benevolence ministry

Vision – HOPE PARK – incredible park across the street

Treasure – NOW, life change – baptisms, addicts set free, marriages

restored, kids and teens won to Christ, families strengthened

KINGDOM OF GOD GROWING!

**NEVER GIVEN – GIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME
RECURRING GIVING
GIVE LIFE TO JESUS**