

GOT PEACE?
“DEVELOPING A HEART FOR GOD”

Pastor Chuck Wysong
September 11, 2011

“Then Jesus said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’” Luke 12:15

GREED – THIRST FOR HAVING MORE

1. RETHINK WHERE I STORE MY TREASURE

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.” Matthew 6:19(NIV)

WHAT’S THE LURE OF THE TREASURE TRAP?

- **SECURITY**
- **SATISFACTION**
- **SIGNIFICANCE**

“But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.” Matthew 6:20,21a

“Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.” Luke 12:33

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:21b

2. RETHINK WHAT I SEEK

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, (generous) your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, (envious) your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” Matthew 6:22-23

3. RETHINK WHO I SERVE

“No one can serve two masters. 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.” Matthew 6:24

HOW DO I ESCAPE THE TREASURE TRAP?

- Build an initial **EMERGENCY FUND**
- Systematically **PAY OFF PERSONAL DEBT**
- Learn to use the **DEBT SNOWBALL**
- Plan for the **FUTURE**
- **GIVE** like you really would like to if money were not an issue!

**NEW SERIES THIS FALL:
DEVELOPING A HEART FOR GOD –
A Study on the Life of David**

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|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sept. 18 | What Matters Most to God |
| Sept. 25 | A Bold Heart |
| Oct. 2 | A Jealous Heart |
| Oct. 9 | A Heart for Friendship |
| Oct. 16 | Hope for the Discouraged Heart |
| Oct. 23 | A Contrite Heart |
| Oct. 30 | A Generous Heart |
| Nov. 6 | A Broken Heart |

TIME WITH GOD

Take a few minutes every day to read Scripture, pray, and answer some thought-provoking questions pertaining to this week's topic.

Memory Verse: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Matthew 6:21(NIV)

Monday

Read Matthew 6:19-20. Why does Jesus say we should not focus primarily on building up our earthly stores of wealth?

What are different ways earthly wealth can be "destroyed" or "stolen"?

This weekend, we mentioned that there are three common lures of the treasure trap: security, satisfaction and significance. Which of these tend to lure you into focusing too much on earthly treasures?

Earthly Treasure is useful for certain things. But when we try to use it to gain the three goals mentioned above, it falls far short. Thank the Lord today for all His good gifts to you. Ask Him to show you ways today that you can store up treasure in heaven.

Tuesday

Read Matthew 6:21-23. What do you think Jesus means when He says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"?

What do you think verses 22-23 mean?

Read Exodus 20:17. How do Jesus' words about your eyes relate to this part of the Ten Commandments?

How does coveting contribute to the "treasure trap" many people find themselves in?

Read Ecclesiastes 4:6. How does this verse help us escape covetousness and greed?

Have you ever been trapped by money — through debt, through consuming envy, through workaholicism, or some other way? How did you get free?

Ask God to help your heart focus on heaven, not earthly treasures. Ask Him for wisdom to discern when you are developing a dangerous relationship with money and possessions. Thank for His priceless gifts of His love and grace.

Wednesday

Read Matthew 6:24. This verse has always haunted me a little; it makes me wonder who it is I'm really serving. Jesus points out that humans will always serve something: Your work, your money, your addictions, your resentments, your pleasure, your God — there will always be a central driving force to your life. Spend some time considering: what have you served at times in your life?

What are you serving now? (Remember, Jesus said you can really only serve one master!)

If you discover that you are really serving another master, take time right now for some realignment. Ask God to once again be your only Lord!

Thursday

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-11. What is the core of Paul's advice in verses 6-9?

Is this easy or hard advice for you to follow?

When are you least likely to be content?

What can happen when we pursue riches, according to verses 9 and 10?

Instead of riches, what are we to pursue, according to verse 11?

Ask God today for a spirit of contentment. Ask Him to open your eyes and help you see gifts He lavishes on you! Ask God to help you be content today.

Friday

Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. According to these verses, why should we not put our hope in wealth?

What should we do instead?

According to verse 17, what does God do for us?

Write down at least 7 things "God richly provides for your enjoyment" that you might easily overlook:

Thank God for all these blessings, and especially for the gift of salvation through Christ Jesus!

Saturday

Look back over the message notes. How do you respond to the questions:

Where do you store?

What do you seek? Who do you serve? In what practical way can you change your life in one small way to help you store, seek, and serve in the right ways?

Please finish up any devotions you may have missed and polish up the memory verse for this week. Please pray for our church as we launch into Financial Peace University. Pray that lives would be changed, marriages would be healed and that Bayside West would be known as an incredibly generous church.