

# MC Discussion Guide

January 29, 2023

Sermon Title

"Lay Up Your Treasure in Heaven"

Sermon Text

Matthew 6:19-24

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## 01. Truths I'm Affirming

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Jesus calls us to "lay up our treasure in heaven."

- What does it mean to "lay up treasure?" (Luke 12:16-21)
  - Pastor Daniel defined it as "man's present investment, work, and self-denial in hopes of a future return of rest and delight."
- We are always spending time doing one of two things: 1) working to store up for later, 2) resting to enjoy the fruit of our work.

Jesus calls us to store up your treasure in heaven because our full joy depends on it.

- Jesus has God's glory and our joy at the center of his teaching here about stewardship.
  - Stewardship means working, giving, and investing in a way that reflects God's supreme worth, aims to bring God glory, and seeks the welfare of others.

Throughout the sermon on the mount, Jesus is taking the law and the practical areas of our lives and pointing out the role of our hearts. Jesus teaches us here that *our hearts and our treasure are connected*.

- What is our "heart?"
  - It's not just our emotional center, rather it is the very essence of what defines and directs us.
- God wants our hearts. *God himself is our treasure*.

Heavenly treasure is better than earthly treasure.

- The way of the world leads to brokenness. If you chase after earthly pleasures, you will reap heartache and devastation.
  1. Earthly treasure is uncertain. Heavenly treasure is secure.
  2. Earthly treasure is temporary. Heavenly treasure is eternal.
  3. Earthly treasure is incomplete. Heavenly treasure is perfect.

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## 02. Questions I'm Asking

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- How am I spending my life? What am I working hard to pursue? Why?
- When Jesus warns against the dangers of worldly treasure and urges us to pursue heavenly treasure, what does he mean? What is heavenly treasure and what makes it better than earthly treasure?
- Does my treasure currently exist in the earthly, temporal things, or in the heavenly, eternal things?
- What will you do when the light of Christ confronts you? You can either repent and turn towards him, or you can deny him and flee. (2 Cor. 4:6; John 3:19-20)

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## 03. Actions I'm Taking

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- What disciplines am I practicing to ensure that my heart and treasure are in God himself? What are some specific areas in which I need to pursue growth?
- If my heart and treasure are in heaven, how should that impact my work, spending, giving, and investing?
- How does thinking about stewardship as a spiritual discipline affect the way I think about my time and money?

