



Life Group Notes: 'Serving Two Masters'

Tuesday 7TH Nov 2017

READ MATTHEW 6: 19-24

19 *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. **20** But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

22 *"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. **23** But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!*

24 *"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.*

INTRODUCTION:

This section of scripture focuses in on the 'Sermon on the Mount' that is covered over Matthew Chapters 5, 6 and 7 where Jesus went up a mountainside and spoke to His disciples and the crowds of people to outline the right ways for us to approach God and to deal with other people. As you read this section of scripture together, reflect on what Jesus was saying to those who heard and how it affects our lives today.

QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE:

1. Jesus appears to be speaking of the danger of our focus on money and materials in verses 19 – 21. In what way do you feel money and materials can have a negative affect on your life and how can we store up 'treasures in heaven' instead?
2. What do you think Jesus meant when he said in verse 21; 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also'?

3. Whilst Jesus is highlighting the dangers of storing up treasure in earth – do you feel there is a healthy balance of living a life for God and still enjoying such earthly treasures.
4. In 1 Timothy 6:10, Apostle Paul further describes money as been the root of all evil and the power it can have to affect our faith. In what ways can we protect ourselves from money becoming our master?
5. Focusing on Matthew 6:22-23 – What do you feel Jesus is trying to say to us in relation to serving two masters?
6. In Deuteronomy 8:18, God reminds his people that he gives them the ability to produce wealth. In contrast of what you read in Matthew, discuss what this means for you in regard to your own treasures. In what ways could this help you to think differently about money and possessions?

CLOSING REFLECTION & PRAYER

In light of these verses, read the following verses in Matthew 6: 25-34 in regard to God's promise in regard to the treasures and things we need. Use this time to pray for each other as you rest in his assurance that God knows exactly what you need and when you need it.

Useful reference scriptures to further explore:

Hebrews 13:15, Ecclesiastes 5:10, 1 John 2:15-17, Proverbs 3: 9-10, Philippians 4:19