

LIFEGROUPS

Winter 2023 | 01.29.23

To catch up on the full Sunday messages from this series, check out our YouTube channel.

[\[YouTube Channel\]](#)

INTRO & ICE BREAKER

Introduce yourself and answer this: If you had an unlimited amount of money for a weekend, what would you want to do and why?

RECAP & DISCUSSION

In this week's message, Pastor Chris talked about finances and how Jesus spent so much time focusing on treasures because He knew how important it was to show us, here & now, the connection of treasures and your heart. This week we put into practice re-prioritizing our treasures to ensure our hearts stay healthy.

Discussion: Let's spend a few moments sharing what stood out to us from the message on Sunday. What was new or unexpected? What impacted you the most? What did you talk about after service?

The beginning of Pastor Chris' message focuses on how the world spends a lot of time and money to get us to care about their priorities, and we often put those things first, above God's priorities. This is an issue because *priority determines capacity* - what we put first determines what we are capable of.

Discussion: Think of some of the things you wish you were capable of. Why is it easy to sacrifice those goals for things of low priority? What are some of the low priorities that you tend to put first?

Have someone read Matthew 6:19-24. In this passage, Jesus tells his followers not to prioritize gaining and saving up earthly treasures, money and other material possessions, but to prioritize the treasure of heaven. Jesus is the treasure that God sent to earth, and his priority was bringing people closer to God. One way to treasure Jesus is through our generosity. How we prioritize our money determines where our heart is; we cannot be stingy with our money and follow Jesus

because he calls his followers to be generous. We cannot serve God and money; we must put God first.

Discussion:

- How do our priorities reveal if we are stingy or generous?
- When you think about your priorities, are any of them due to being stingy?
- How can you shift that priority to put Jesus first and help other people grow in their relationship with God?

Pastor Chris concluded by reminding us that our involvement in the Church is only possible because someone else decided to be generous with their money and courageously invited us to follow Jesus, and we should do the same. When we prioritize the lordship of Jesus, everything else falls into place.

Discussion: During this Life Group season, what do you need to prioritize in order to grow in your relationship with Jesus (for example: becoming financially healthy, increasing your generosity, inviting more people to church, serving on Sunday mornings, etc.)? Discuss ways your Life Group can encourage you over the next couple months.

PRAY

One of the things that we want to focus on each season of Life Groups is to get comfortable praying out loud together. Close out your time together with prayer. If you're a newer Life Group, the leader can set an example by leading in prayer, but explain that we'll all be doing this over the next few weeks together. Explain that prayer is simply talking to God - there aren't perfect words to say. Next week, encourage someone else to close in prayer!

Are there any prayer requests or praise/celebrations?

- Please pray for our new building and for the plans/construction process!

ANNOUNCE

- **Baptisms are coming up on Sunday 2/5 at the end of service!**
 - Bring your noisemakers, pots and pans, and whistles! We can't wait to celebrate these incredible next steps of faith!!
- **Coming up:**
 - **2/5 Growth Track 101 starts again!**
 - If you haven't been through Growth Track yet, this is the best way for you to get

to know our church and get better connected to Our City!

- **2/12 Super Love Sunday**
 - We will be celebrating the Super Bowl and Valentine's Day after service! Wear your favorite NFL team jersey or dress up for Valentine's Day! There will be something for everyone!
- **2/26 Child Dedications are 2/26**
 - Email ***KellenM@ourcity.church*** for more info!
- **2/26 Meet n Greet**
 - If you're new at Our City, Pastor Chris and his wife Brenda are hosting a lunch after service! Fill out a connection card to sign up - ourcity.church/connect

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