

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

What Do You Treasure?

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
August 11, 2024



Who or what has captured your heart? What is at the centre of your life?

Matthew 6:19-24 (NLT) “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal.²⁰ Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal.²¹ Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be. ²² “Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light.²³ But when your eye is unhealthy, your whole body is filled with darkness. And if the light you think you have is actually darkness, how deep that darkness is! ²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”

1) Your heart is captured by what you treasure most.

¹⁹ “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal.²¹ Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

Matthew 6:19-22 (MSG) “Don’t hoard treasure down here where it gets eaten by moths and corroded by rust or—worse!—stolen by burglars. Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it’s safe from moth and rust and burglars. It’s obvious, isn’t it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.”

2) Your life will be shaped by the focus of your eyes.

²² “Your eye is like a lamp that provides light for your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is filled with light.²³ But when your eye is unhealthy, your whole body is filled with darkness. And if the light you think you have is actually darkness, how deep that darkness is!”

Matthew 6:22-23 (AMP) “The eye is the lamp of the body; so if your eye is clear [spiritually perceptive], your whole body will be full of light [benefiting from God’s precepts]. ²³ But if your eye is bad [spiritually blind], your whole body will be full of darkness [devoid of God’s precepts]. So if the [very] light inside you [your inner self, your heart, your conscience] is darkness, how great and terrible is that darkness!”

Psalm 119:37 (NLT) “Turn my eyes from worthless things, and give me life through your word.”

- **One of Kingdom practices that help us focus on the right things is giving generously...**

Matthew 6:22-23 (MSG) “Your eyes are windows into your body. If you open your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light. If you live squinty-eyed in greed and distrust, your body is a musty cellar. If you pull the blinds on your windows, what a dark life you will have!”

[Giving as a Way to Reflect our Generous God](#) (link in App Sermon Notes)

3) You can’t be devoted to God and your possessions.

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”

- **Either God is served with a single-eyed devotion, or he is not served at all.**

Philippians 2:5-11 (NLT) “You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honour and gave him the name above all other names, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Big Idea: Be devoted to God & live simply & generously.

- **Be devoted to God.**

Has God captured your heart? Is God at the centre of your life?

- **Live simply.**

How can you simplify your life to be more focused on things that really matter? What can you give up or go without that would help you live with the Kingdom in mind?

- **Live generously.**

Where do you need to grow in generosity?
Where is God asking you to give in response to His grace?

Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's service are from the New Living Translation (NLT), The Amplified Bible (AMP) & The Message (MSG).



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

What Do You Treasure?

#18 of 26 - August 11, 2024

- 1) What has God been teaching you through the Sermon on the Mount?
- 2) Read Matthew 6:19-24. What is the **Context** for these passages? Who is the writer and the recipients? Where does this fit in the book as a whole?
- 3) **Observation:** What “jumps out” in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions does it raise for you?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this for us?
- 5) What does Jesus mean when he says “where your treasure is, the desires of your heart will be also”? Why does our heart follow what we are most devoted to? Share an example of how you have seen this in your own life.
- 6) How do we know something other than our relationship with God has captured our heart? What are the consequences of this happening? According to Jesus what is the solution to this?
- 7) What is the natural result of focusing on the grace and generosity of God? How does this bring “light” into our life? What difference does this make for how we live?
- 8) How does giving generosity help us focus on the important things in life? Take time to review the “Giving as a Way to Reflect our Generous God” study. (Link in sermon notes)
- 9) Why can’t we serve two masters? In what ways do we serve the master of money and possessions?
- 10) Read Philippians 2:5-11. When you see what Jesus has done for you, how does this make you feel? How does this inspire greater devotion to God for you?
- 11) What action steps will you take today to be devoted to God, live simply, and live generously?



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