IMPACT COMMUNITIES real life. real impact.

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The Pursuit of True Treasure (#2 of 3) April 30, 2017

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

• In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?

• How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God is asking us to lean into?

• How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) What did you find most helpful, encouraging, or challenging in this message?

3) Have you ever seen or heard of an example of drastic generosity? Share about it. What thoughts or emotions do you experience when listening to these types of stories? (e.g. inspiration, guilt, defensiveness, joy, etc). Why do you think you react the way you do?

4) Read Matthew 6:19-34. Jesus describes various reasons why pursuing earthly treasure is dangerous and leads to unexpected results.

- Share an example of an "earthly treasure" you once pursued, only to discover later that it couldn't deliver the way you thought it would.
- Which of the dangers of earthly treasure do you struggle to believe is true?

5) Consider your current spending and possessions, and those which you are working towards attaining. Complete this sentence: I would struggle to live without ______. Which idol of the heart does this "earthly treasure" reveal in your life? (The idol of comfort, of security, of significance, of power, etc).

7) Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. What stands out to you in this passage? If you were Timothy, how would you go about teaching people not to trust in their money, but rather to use their money to do good? How would you teach them to treat their money and possessions in light of eternity?

8) What step are you going to take this week to turn from a pursuit of earthly treasure, to the pursuit of heavenly treasure?

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SEQUOIA NOTES Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message

The Pursuit of True Treasure

With Aaron Richert, Multiply Team Leader April 30, 2017



Matthew 6:19-21 "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.

Two Opposing Lifestyles:

In pursuit of **EARTHLY** treasures vs. in pursuit of **HEAVENLY** treasures.

Pursuing earthly treasures...

ls <u>FUTILE</u> (v. 19-21)

Fills our hearts with **DARKNESS** (v. 22-23)

"But when your eye is bad, your whole body is filled with darkness..."

- Puts us at odds with **<u>GOD</u>** (v. 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 both God and money."

Leads to **ANXIETY** and **FEAR** (v. 25-31)

"That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear...

"And why worry about your clothing?...

"So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?'

DISTRACTS us (vs. 32-34)

"These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need."

Big Idea: Pursuing True Treasure opens the door for <u>DRASTIC</u> <u>GENEROSITY</u>

1 Tim. 6:17-19 Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. ¹⁹ By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

To reveal what your heart treasures...

- Several Severa
- Evaluate your **POSSESSIONS**