

Summer in the Red

Week 6 Chasing Treasure

Matthew 6:19-22 (TPT)

19“Don’t keep hoarding for yourselves earthly treasures that can be stolen by thieves. Material wealth eventually rusts, decays, and loses its value. 20 Instead, stockpile heavenly treasures for yourselves that cannot be stolen and will never rust, decay, or lose their value. 21 For your heart will always pursue what you esteem as your treasure. 22“The eyes of your spirit allow revelation-light to enter into your being. If your heart is unclouded, the light floods in!

- Jesus is again comparing the kingdom of this world and the Kingdom of Heaven.
- Heavens Investment Strategy:
 - Eternal value, not temporary value.
 - Significance, not just successful
 - Thriving, not surviving
 - Giving, not getting
 - God-life, not just good-life
 - Calling, not comfort
 - Intentional not best intentions
- He challenges what we are chasing in this life, where are we investing our time, talent, and treasure.

Investment flows from Intimacy

- Whatever your intimate with gets your investment.
- Our bank accounts, calendars, and our Chic Fil A rewards are indicators of our investment strategy.

Ex. *Elvis chasing his tale. It’s cute at first but it hurts and makes a mess.*

Heaven’s Treasure:

Matthew 13:44 (NASB)

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells everything that he has, and buys that field.

- The Field is the World
- The Man is Jesus
- The Treasure is You.

Heaven’s treasure is people.

- If you look at Heaven’s account you will see that it was completely emptied to purchase you!
- It cost Him everything but it gained him everything that mattered
- “In his joy” not drudgery or duty. It was not- “I have to do this.” It was- “I can’t but help but do this!”
- Your heart will follow where you put God’s resources. Watch what happens when you move it from the temporal to the eternal.
- Generosity infuses life with joy and empowers it with grace
- Grace is God’s action, giving is our reaction- We give because He gave
- Generosity is simply a response to grace (2 Corinthians 8- The same Greek word for Christian giving and God’s grace)

When our eyes are on the treasure, we’ll make short-term sacrifices with joy.

Prayers to Add Value:

- **Solomon-** *1 Kings 3:9 “Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong.*
- **Jesus:** *Matt 20:28 Do as I did: The Son of Man did not come for people to serve him. He came to serve others and to give his life to save many people.”*
- **Paul-** *1 Cor 9: “I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.”*

“Do not try to become a person of success but try to become a person of value.”
Albert Einstein

EVERYONE can do these 5 things every day!

1. Value People

- Every person on earth was created in the image of God. That means they have value. Not because they think like me, look like me, or like me.
- Look at all for Gospels...Jesus valued EVERYONE! (The Samaritan woman, the thief on the cross, the leper, the list goes on...)
- The only people that didn’t like it were religious people. We’ve got to decide if we are going to start connecting with people or keep correcting people.
- You are either a plus person or a minus person.

2. Think of Ways to Add Value to People

- Most people don’t get up every day and ask “how can I add value to people?” They ask, “who will add value to me?”
- We are selfish. If you don’t think you are selfish, who do you look for in a group picture?
- Simply make your plan to add value to others every day.

3. Look for Ways to Add Value People

Hebrews 10:24 (NLT)

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.

- You see what you anticipate. When you anticipate adding value to others, you
- begin to see ways to.
- Value what others value.

4. Do Things That Add Value to People

Ephesians 4:29 (AMP)

Do not let unwholesome [foul, profane, worthless, vulgar] words ever come out of your mouth, but only such speech as is good for building up others, according to the need and the occasion, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear [you speak].

5. Encourage Others to Add Value to People

- People of value that value other people.
- You can't reproduce what you don't do yourself. So model Kingdom generosity.

1 Peter 2:8-9

But you are God's chosen treasure —priests who are kings, a spiritual "nation" set apart as God's devoted ones. He called you out of darkness to experience his marvelous light, and now he claims you as his very own. He did this so that you would broadcast his glorious wonders throughout the world.

Ps. Tony Summer in the Red Day 35

Jesus teaches us the secret to true wealth in this passage. Invest in people and relationships. Add value to others today by seeing them, hearing them, and sharing the love of God with them. While you're going about your tasks of attaining the material things we need for this life, keep your heart chasing the important things-healthy lifegiving relationships, first with God, then with others. When you catch that goal it won't hurt!

Story: Running in New Zealand- Skippers Road

- Created for gold miners to have safe passage to one of New Zealand's richest gold-bearing rivers
- "This is what you were made for."

Response:

1. You are treasured by the King of the universe. Are you ready to receive His gift of salvation?
2. Do you want to be a person that makes an eternal difference in the life of others?