

I. Intro

A. Text: **Matt 6:19-34**

B. This text comes in context to a larger portion of Scripture known as the Sermon on the Mount. I want us to keep this in mind because it is going to come up again next month. For the moment I'll only comment about this larger context by saying this, "I believe that the Sermon on the Mount is the clearest teaching in all of Scripture about what it means to love God with all of your strength."

C. It is about lifestyle. It is about what we do and what we don't do. It's about why we do what we do and why we don't do what we don't do.

D. It's that our life isn't about this age but it's all about the age to come.

E. This is why I use the term "Sermon on the Moun Lifestyle" as a core value.

F. One part of this lifestyle is how we steward our money and our possessions.

II. **Matt 6:19-20 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.**

A. "Lay up treasures in heaven" - (introduce the concept of eternal rewards)

B. Francis Chan rope illustration

C. I'm literally a little bit crazy whenever I think that my life is about this age.

III. **Matt 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."**

A. Whatever we come to value, we will love. Our affections will be with what we place value in. This truth has various implications:

-
1. Value is developed. We don't automatically know the value of things as kids. And what we've placed the most stock in is what we value the most.
 2. Because of this, when we give to the kingdom we will love the kingdom more. By giving, we come to value more what God values. By giving, we grow in love. Giving money is one way that we create value in something and shift our affections to that area. And even more, when we give over our life's ambition and purpose to the pursuit of God our affections become consumed with God. We can lead the way that we feel over time (another teaching in itself).
 3. When our emotions are moved by something (positive or negative) we know that we have treasure in that.
 - a) This can be profoundly convicting in that when I am angry because I've been mistreated, I actually treasure my own rights. When I become bitter over loss of money or things or reputation I know that my treasure is in those things.

IV. **Matt 6:22-23 "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. "But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great *is* that darkness!**

A. Jesus gives another way in which we can lead our emotions or lead where our affections are placed. We have the reigns of our emotions to lead them.

B. We become like what we behold (**2 Cor 3:18, Psalm 27:4**)

V. **Matt 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."**

A. We were made to love and to give affection wholeheartedly. The only way that God loves is with His whole heart, this is why He commands us to love Him with all of His heart.

-
- B. The most miserable way to live is with a divided heart (divided affections) never being captivated by the One you made to be wholehearted about. Constantly divided between the “more” to life that you know there is and living for your own fleeting ambitions.
 - C. Even in verse 22 the word “good” is better translated whole or single. **“If your eye is single (fixed on one thing)” your whole body will be full of light”** Greek: *haplous- simple, single, whole*
- VI. **Matt 6:25 “Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?”**
- A. **“Is not life more?”**
 - 1. Is not life more than the things that we worry about? Is not life more than the things we preoccupy ourselves with to fill the void of what we were really made for? This is Jesus’ way forward in overcoming worry is to live for what is eternal. To be struck with the weight that life is far more than what is temporary.
 - 2. When we take our imagination to the heights of what we think is great in this age, life is about far more! It is about loving God and being loved by Him. Eternity is written in our hearts.
 - 3. “You have made me for Yourself, O Lord, and my heart is restless until it finds its rest in You”- Augustine of Hippo
 - 4. I remember hearing Misty Edwards talk about not being satisfied restless on the inside and asking the question over and over what’s the point? To not settle for a temporary answer.
 - B. **Matt 6:26-32 “Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? “Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? “So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; “and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. “Now if God so clothes**

the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith?

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

C. **Matt 6:33** “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

1. Seek first the Kingdom, what will remain in eternity, confident in the goodness of your Father who knows what you have need of.

D. **Matt 6:34** “Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble.