WHAT DO YOU VALUE?

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TEXT:
Luke 18:18-24
18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? 19 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is, God. 20 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother. 21 And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up. 22 Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. 23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich! 24) And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

SUBJ: What do you value?

INTRO: We all want to be blessed and prosperous! We all want to be successful and accomplish a lot of things in life, but we to remember not to let what we value be misplaced!

(NOTE: Sometimes we can get so caught up on trying to accumulate things in this life, that we lose focus of the things that are most valuable in this life, and we end up putting ourselves in bad situations!

(STORY) "There's a story about a little boy who got his arm stuck in the opening of a very expensive vase and he couldn't pull it out. So his parents started pulling, with all their might, on the child's arm, and still couldn't get it out!

Finally they decided that there was nothing left to do, but to break this beautiful, expensive vase. And when they broke the vase, they realized why the child's hand was stuck in the vase.

He had balled his hand into a fist because he grabbed a piece of candy that he saw in the bottom of the vase and he didn't want to let it go."

(EXPOUND) See, when we put our values in the wrong stuff, we can get stuck trying to get things that look good to us, but it ain't good for us.

And what happens is that we end up ruining the valuable thing, for something that ain't worth nothing!

We need to keep our values in the right place and on the right thing!

(NOTE: The reason why GOD haven't blessed some us with all that he has for us, is because he knows that our values would become misplaced!)

Some of us would value what we get, more than we value the one who gave it to us!

Luke 18:18-22
18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? 19 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is, God. 20 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother. 21 And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up. 22 Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me!

(EXPOUND) JESUS said, "I hear you talking, but put your money where your mouth is, and show me that you value GOD, more than you value your money!"

Luke 18:23-24
23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich! 24 And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!

(EXPOUND) When you put your value on the things of this world, you put yourself in a dangerous position to miss out on making it into the next world!

(NOTE: And all the money in this world can't buy you a way into HEAVEN!)

(EXP#) JESUS said
Mark 8:36
36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

(EXP#) Timothy said
1 Timothy 6:10
10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

When you put your value on the things of this world, you put yourself in a position to miss out on making it into the next world!

Matthew 6:19-21
19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

(QUESTION) How do we keep from having our values misplaced?

BODY:

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#1 KEEP THINGS IN THE PROPER PERSPECTIVE!

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(EXPOUND) The things of this world are going to fade away and will not last!

That's why John said in
1 John 2:15-17
15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

(EXPOUND) Don't Love the world, neither the things that are in the world because if you do, the love of the GOD is not in you!

(NOTE: Because all of this stuff is going to fade away!)

(EXP#) Your car, is going to fade away!

(EXP#) Your house, is going to fade away!

(EXP#) Your clothes, are going to fade away!

(EXP#) Your body, is going to fade away! (Your husband/wife, is going to fade away!) your children, are going to fade away!

(EXP#) This WORLD, is going to fade away Because it's temporary!

But our VALUE should be, in WORD, because the WORD shall endure forever

JESUS said
Matthew 24:35
35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

(EXPOUND) the WORD shall endure forever!

Paul said in
2 Corinthians 4:18
18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal!

(EXPOUND) Things of this world are temporary, but the things of GOD are eternal!

Matthew 6:19-20
19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

Then JESUS said, Number#2, "Don't put any value on the things of this world, because Thieves can break through and steal it!"

(EXPOUND) See, thieves can only steel what they can see!

(EXP#) They can steal your car, your money, your clothes, your food!

But they can't steal the WORD from you, because it's hidden in your heart!

And they can't steal your SPIRIT because Your Spirit is eternal and belongs to GOD!

Matthew 6:19-20
19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal!

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#2 KEEP YOUR FOCUSED ON THE THINGS OF GOD!

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(EXPOUND) Don't worry about the things of this world, but focus on the things of GOD!

(NOTE: Things like LOVE, FORGIVENESS, HUMILITY, RIGHTEOUSNESS, HOLINESS, GODLINESS, and the HOLY GHOST!)

Matthew 6:20
20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal!

(EXPOUND) NOW, This doesn't mean we're not supposed to have money or possessions in this world!

In fact about JESUS said in
Matthew 6:33
33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

(EXPOUND) It doesn't mean we're not supposed to have things, because We need money!

(NOTE: Money is not the problem!)

Solomon said in
Ecclesiastes 10:19
19 A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry: but money answereth all things.

(EXPOUND) Money is not the problem, money is an answer!

(NOTE: It's our love of money that is the problem!) It's what we'll do to get money that's the problem!

1 Timothy 6:10
10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

(EXPOUND) When we start loving our money more than we love GOD, that's when we hurt ourselves!

Paul said
Colossians 3:1-2
1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

CONCLUSION:

Matthew 6:19-21
19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

(QUESTION) How do we keep from having our values misplaced?

#1 Keep things in the proper perspective!

#2 Keep your focused on the things of GOD!

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#3 REMEMBER WHY YOU'RE HERE!

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(EXPOUND) When you remember why you're here, it'll keep you from misplacing your values!

JESUS said in
Matthew 5:14-16
14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

(MESSAGE)
You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill.

(EXPOUND) He said, "You all are here, to represent GOD in this world and your life will be on public display!"

Understand that as a Christian, the light of your life is the greatest testament to GOD, that we show to the world. And the reason why it's the greatest testament, is because we are living testimonies of his POWER!

(NOTE: We are living examples of what the Power of God can do in someone's life!)

No, we're not perfect! We're know where near perfect! But because of his Power, we can boldly say to the world, that I may not be what I should be, but I thank GOD that I'm not what I used to be!

(EXP#) I'm not that ALCOHOLIC, that I used to be!
(NOTE: I don't drink from downtown anymore, I drink from uptown!)

(EXP#) I'm not that DRUG addict, that I used to be!
(NOTE: I don't smoke weed anymore to get high, I get high on the HOLY GHOST!)

(EXP#) I'm not that CHEATER, that I used to be!
(NOTE: I don't try to get over on people anymore, but I try to help people to get over!)

He said, "Your life is going to help save somebody else's life!"

(NOTE: They're going to look at you and ask the question: What must I do to be saved!)