

Home Groups | Week of February 21, 2016  
Sermon on the Mount | Matthew 6:19-24

**Ice Breaker Question:**

If you can't answer money or family members, what do you "treasure" in life?

The Lord's Prayer: If you were in worship one of the last 2 Sundays, which phrase did you choose from the Lord's Prayer? Do you have any reflections on that phrase?

**Read today's scripture [ Matthew 6:19-24] and discuss:**

1. In our culture, how is success generally measured? In other words, what is treasured in our world today?
2. If Jesus were to look at how you spend your time and money, what would he say your treasure is? What do you think he would say about that treasure?
3. This passage deals with treasures in heaven. Think of yourself in 10-20 years, who do you want to be known for? What do you need to do today to make that happen?
4. What is the connection between the eye and the body? How are physical sight (or blindness) and spiritual sight (or blindness) alike?
5. Matthew 6:22-23 talks of your eyes. If someone were to describe how you see the world, how would they do that?
6. In verse 24, Jesus says that we cannot serve both God and money. Jesus often teaches about wealth and the love of money. Why is it that he spends so much time on this subject? Discuss in your group practical ways you can serve God, not money.

**Prayer:**

Keep the following prayer requests from our church family in mind as you close:

- > Prayers of healing for Karen Cunningham and Hadley Lehr.
- > Prayers of comfort for the Fultz family in the death of Clint's mother.

Home Groups | Week of February 21, 2016  
Sermon on the Mount | Matthew 6:19-24 | Leader's Notes

**Reminders for your group:**

Chili Cook-Off and Movie Night | Saturday, February 27 | 5:30-8:30 pm | Gym & Sanctuary  
Lenten Worship Services | Wednesdays through March 23 | 7 am | Sanctuary

**[Leader's Notes]**

The Lord's Prayer: The last two Sundays, Jerry taught on the Lord's Prayer and asked all who attended to pick a phrase that resonated with them. Then, each person was asked to reflect on that phrase and what it means to them during the season of Lent. Discuss this with your group.

Matthew 6:19-24: Jesus teaches often on the themes of money and priorities. Here, he tells his disciples, and us, that we cannot serve two masters, God and money, so we must choose. We are called to put up treasures in heaven and to "fix our eyes" on the things of God. Now, it's up to us to figure out how to do that in our lives, both today and in the future.

**[Question 1]** Success is often measured in our suburban communities by the careers we have, how successful our kids are, where we can afford to go on vacation, and also on our relationships. Talk about how loving God (with all that we are) and loving neighbor (as ourselves) should be our measure of success.

**[Question 2]** When you look up your bank statement online, or your checkbook, where does your money go? How do you spend your time? Therefore, what are your priorities in terms of time and money?

**[Question 3]** In 10-20 years, what will people say your treasure is? What can you prioritize today to have a good relationship with God, to walk in God's ways, and to help your family or your relationships honor God?

**[Question 4]** Spiritual sight is our ability to see more clearly how God is guiding us. Without good spiritual sight (without being connected to God) we cannot see what's ahead, what obstacles are out there, and what direction to go – similar to walking with physical blindness.

**[Question 5]** Some see the world in terms of light, some see it as dark. Some see the world with a cynical view; some see the world with a generous view. God desires for us to see with eyes that are good, so that our whole body (even our view) will be full of light (Matt. 6:22). Do others see you as a person with a generous viewpoint, with a sense of light?

**[Question 6]** By teaching on money and wealth so much, Jesus emphasizes its importance. You might discuss giving away money to godly causes such as alleviating poverty and disease, or to support ministry to children, or support those who are on the fringes of our society. You might discuss what it does to people to focus too much on accumulating wealth and things.