

## Life Group Homework

For the week of March 19, 2017

### QUICK REVIEW

- 1) Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

### MY STORY

- 2) What theme or idea has God been speaking to you personally about throughout this study?
- 3) What was your takeaway from last week's study?
- 4) From last week's study, did you do something different with your treasure?

### DIGGING DEEPER

Luke 12:13-21

<sup>13</sup> Then someone called from the crowd, "Teacher, please tell my brother to divide our father's estate with me."

<sup>14</sup> Jesus replied, "Friend, who made me a judge over you to decide such things as that?" <sup>15</sup> Then He said, "Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own."

<sup>16</sup> Then He told them a story: "A rich man had a fertile farm that produced fine crops. <sup>17</sup> He said to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have room for all my crops.' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I'll have room enough to store all my wheat and other goods. <sup>19</sup> And I'll sit back and say to myself, "My friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy! Eat, drink, and be merry!"'

<sup>20</sup> "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?' <sup>21</sup> "Yes, a person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not have a rich relationship with God."

- 5) When a person from the crowd asks Jesus to divide the inheritance, how does Jesus respond?
- 6) What does Jesus warn the crowd against?

- 7) What does greed mean, and are there different forms of it?
- 8) Jesus uses a parable to illustrate His point about greed. From the parable, what is the attitude of the rich man?
- 9) Who is Jesus saying we should be rich towards?
- 10) Over several of the past studies we have talked about attitudes of the heart. Greed is another one of the attitudes we wrestle with. What are some principles or thoughts we have discussed about attitudes of the heart?

### TAKING IT HOME

Luke 12:22-26

<sup>22</sup> Then, turning to his disciples, Jesus said, "That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food to eat or enough clothes to wear. <sup>23</sup> For life is more than food, and your body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup> Look at the ravens. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for God feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than any birds! <sup>25</sup> Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? <sup>26</sup> And if worry can't accomplish a little thing like that, what's the use of worrying over bigger things?"

- 11) From the passage above, what is the main thing Jesus tells us not to do?

Two weeks ago Pastor Craig challenged us with this statistic: three out of four people do not balance their check book. This means 75% of people do not know how much they bring in and how much they spend.

- 12) Would knowing and having a budget help prevent worry about our finances? If so, how?

Pastor Craig also gave us the outline below as a guide for our finances.

#### **Treasure as a multi-tool:**

- Fund the care of me and my family's present: 70-80%.
- Fund the care of me and my family's future: 10-20%.

- Fund God's mission through His local church: 10%+.

- 13) What are some of the things that prevent Christians from following these guidelines?
- 14) Where can we start if we are not currently following these principles?
- 15) This week Pastor's main point was this: how I manage my finances creates a path towards funding the life I want to live at the side of Christ. How does God's plan set us free?

## CHAIR TIME TOOL

As we draw to the end of this study, we have done the work to write a personal vision statement. If you have done the work offered in the Chair Time tools of the study, you should be at this point: first, you have determined your foundation to be the Word of God; second, you have examined yourself and surrendered the areas you are too comfortable in; third, you have written Biblical values you want to live by; fourth, you have examined painful experiences in your life, as well as positive experiences, that can be used by God.

This week we will consider the final questions before we put it all together.

# TOO COMFORTABLE?

## When my comfort meets God's challenges

### Week 2: Treasure

Pastor Craig Sweeney

**My goal for you: To be free!**

- **One Main Point:** How I **manage/steward** my finances creates a path towards funding the life I want to live at the side of Christ.

**Week 1 Review:**

- What is in my hands?
- Am I willing to hear what God has to say about the treasure in my hands?

**Point #1: We exchange treasure of lesser value for treasure of greater value.**

**Point #2: We all have something in our hands to work with.**

**Point #3: God views us as **stewards** of His treasure...**

(Lk 12:13–21) <sup>21</sup> "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

**Treasure as a multi-tool:**

1. Fund the care of me and my family's **present**.
2. Fund the care of me and my family's **future**.
3. Fund God's **mission** through His **local church**.

**Tithe:**

(Mal. 3:10) The tithe is still in place... God is still blessing those who practice it. Jesus comes 400 years later and teaches and exemplifies the heart of God.

Matthew 5:17-19

Matthew 23:23

Matthew 6:19-21

**Point #4: We can't take treasure with us, but we can send it on ahead of us.**

- **HOW** can I be **RICH** towards God?
  - When I give to the mission of God, starting with the TITHE, I am **creating opportunities** for people to become fully devoted **followers** of Jesus...I'm being **RICH** towards God.

This really is about **eternity!**

**Question: Do we know why we have been given so much?**

1. Fund the care of me and my family's present. **70-80%**
2. Fund the care of me and my family's future. **10-20%**
3. Fund God's mission through His local church. **10%+**

**Great questions to wrestle with:**

- Now that I know God's heart...what changes need to be made?
- Who do I need to meet with?
- Am I providing for me and my family in the present and the future? How do I know?
- How could I honor God with the treasure in my hands?
- What will I do?

**Resource:** "Financial Peace"