

Simplicity

Week 6

Where your treasure is, your heart will be also. Matt. 6:21

1. _____ can make it harder to experience wealth in God.

Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions. Luke 12:15

Again, I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God. Matthew 19:24

2. Everything we buy and accumulate on earth _____.

Luke 12:16-34

The drive to possess is an engine for hurry. Alan Fadling

PRACTICES

1. Before you buy something, ask yourself, "What is the true cost of this item"?
2. Before you buy, ask yourself, by buying this am I oppressing the poor or harming the earth?
3. Never impulse buy.
4. When you do buy, opt for fewer, better things.
5. Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful.
6. When you can, share.
7. Get into the habit of giving things away.
8. Live by a budget.
9. Learn to enjoy without owning.
10. Cultivate a deep appreciation for creation.
11. Cultivate a deep appreciation for the simple pleasures.
12. Recognize advertising for what it is – propaganda. Call out the lie.
13. Lead a cheerful happy revolt against the spirit of materialism.

3. _____ His kingdom.

The eye is the lamp of the body; so, then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. Matthew 6:22

Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. I Timothy 6:17-19

4. Where your treasure lies,_____.

But the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word and becomes unfruitful. Mark 4:19

Small Group Questions

1. Reread Luke 12:15-34, Jesus describes the dilemma of money. How have you seen money affect the quality of your life and where you focus, or influence how you get distracted?
What do you find valuable as you hear Jesus' teaching?
2. As you think through the Luke 12 passage and your possessions, choose one practice from Point 2, you can implement to make life simpler and more focused on God.
3. This is a hard one and very challenging but Is there anything that you have put in place in your life that protects you from continuing to "build bigger barns"? or is there someone in the group that has put this into practice?
4. What is one way this week you can focus on Jesus for satisfaction and fulfillment instead of your stuff?

Reading at Home

1. I Timothy 6:6,7
2. Luke 6:30
3. Luke 12:33
4. Matthew 6:25-34
5. Luke 12:15-34