

Stewardship Series

"Treasures" Matthew 6:33 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Recap:

- Stewardship Series
 - Time
 - Last Week Talents
 - We all have been given Gifts
 - God will reward those who use them
 - God will punish those who do not use them
- Our Last Sermon in our Series today is Treasures
- 11 to 16 of 40 Parables was about money
- 1 out of 7 verses Jesus spoke was on money.
- 288 verses in the gospels were about money.
- I would conclude this is a pretty important topic
- Today, Paul gives us four crucial lessons on giving and how we can use our treasures to seek the Kingdom of God first.
- I. How We Give (The Manner of Christian Giving, vv. 6-7)
 - A. Generously (v. 6)
 - B. Thoughtfully (v. 7a)
 - C. Freely (7b)
 - D. Cheerfully (7c)
- II. What We Give (The Source of Christian Giving vv. 8-11)
 - A. John D. Rockefeller, at the time the richest man in the world once told a reporter he was not really happy. The reporter asked him how much money it would take to make him happy. Rockefeller said, "Just a little bit more."

- B. What slogan is on the United States currency? You know it "In God We Trust." Except, lots of people, including maybe even us, functionally trust the money itself more than the trust in the God whom the slogan professes. We tend to arrange our lives around money, pour our energy into money, and live for money. It is a temptation we all face.
- C. Godly Wisdom and experience teach us that money does not satisfy the deepest longings of the soul.
- D. When we use our treasures in the matter of seeking the Kingdom of God First, we are saying treasures are not my god, my security or identity. It is not what I trust.
- E. Only God is my identity, security and joy. I might "technically" have less when I give, but I trust God will provide and keep providing for everything that I need and when I need it.
- F. You can't out give God (v. 11a)
- III. What Happens When We Give (Results of Christian Giving vv. 12-14)
 - A. Others benefit (v. 12)
 - B. God is Glorified (vv. 11b-13)
 - C. Relationship is Strengthened (v. 14)
- IV. Why We Give (Model of Christian Giving v. 15)
 - A. He Adopts us into his family
 - B. He calls us sons and daughters
 - C. He welcomes us into his kingdom
 - D. He fill us with his Spirit, presence and power
 - E. He promises eternal and spiritual inheritance that will never fade
 - F. He gives us a new life with him, a life characterized by things like love, joy, peace, hope, strength and purpose.

Conclusion:

- How are we seeking the Kingdom of God first with our treasures?
- Remember God model giving to us by giving the ultimate gift, his son Jesus Christ.

- Do we trust God with our treasures? Like the slogan on our currency says "In God we Trust." Do we put our trust in him, with our treasures?
- My prayer, as we have gone through this short series, we will use our time, talents and treasures to seek his kingdom first.
- Not my will be done, but his will be done.
- May we use our Time, Talents and Treasures to further the Kingdom of God and to Share Christ Love to each other and to the community that surrounds us and beyond.