**Stewardship Series: Treasures**

**True Riches: Trust, Generosity and Eternal Rewards**

**1 Timothy 6:17-19**

**Recap:**

* **Ticker (Stewarding the Heart): Proverbs 4:23**
	+ **The Importance of the Heart**
	+ **The Call to Guard our Heart.**
	+ **A Heart Aligned with God’s Purpose**
	+ **Daily Stewardship Practices**

**Intro:**

* **1 Timothy 6:17-19**
* **Common Negative Responses to Conversations about Personal Finances**
	+ **Feel Uneducated**
	+ **Feel Foolish**
	+ **God**
	+ **Feel Overwhelmed**
	+ **Stress and Anxiety**
	+ **Avoidance**
* **What is Stewardship?**
	+ **Psalms 24:1: The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.**
	+ **God Owns Everything**
* **Ways God may entrust these resources.**
	+ **Earned through work.**
	+ **Gifts**
	+ **Inheritance**
	+ **Growth in Investments**
* **What is the will of God for the Treasures God has entrusted to me?**
1. **Warning to the Wealthy (17a)**
	1. **There is a Danger in Pride and Misplaced Security**
		1. **1 Timothy 6:6-10**
		2. **Matthew 6:19-34**
	2. **Application**
		1. **We need to be humble and have a proper perspective on earthly riches.**
		2. **Where do we place our hope?**
2. **Encouragement to Trust in God (17b)**
	1. **God is the True provider of all things. God’s Provision is for both our needs and joy, reminding us of His Goodness**
		1. **James 1:17: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.**
		2. **Philippians 4:19: And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.**
	2. **Application**
		1. **We need to shift our trust from wealth to God.**
		2. **We need to practice gratitude and reliance on God to transform our outlook.**
3. **The Call to Generosity (v. 18)**
	1. **Giving reflects God Character and Fosters Community. How do we define true riches as acts of kindness, generosity, and service?**
		1. **Example #1 2 Corinthians 8:1-4; 9:7,11: We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according the their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints…Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver…You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.**
		2. **Philippians 2:3-8: Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this in mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.**
	2. **Application:**
		1. **Practice Generosity**
		2. **Cultivate a lifestyle of sharing and helping others.**
4. **Storing Up Treasure in Heaven (v. 19)**
	1. **Earthly Wealth rots and disappears. Eternal Treasures are forever. True Life comes from living in alignment with God’s purposes.**
		1. **Love God (Matthew 22:37)**
		2. **Lover Others (Matthew 22:38-39)**
	2. **Investing in God’s Kingdom has a lasting Impact.**
	3. **We must pursue eternal priorities.**

**Conclusion/Application**

1. **Do not be Arrogant.**
2. **Do not put your Hope in Wealth**
3. **Put Your Hope in God**
4. **Do Good, Be Rich in Good Deeds, Generous and Willing to Share**
5. **Lay Up Treasures with the Firm Foundation**
6. **Take Hole of life that is truly life.**
* **Questions to ask yourself:**
	+ **Do you view all your money as being owned by God and are you seeking to wisely spend, save and give what he has entrusted to you?**
	+ **Is your Hope in God or in the Uncertainty of Riches?**
	+ **Do you view giving as a rule to follow or do you find Joy in giving as you respond to Jesus’ generosity to you?**