



# The Best Life

A SERIES THROUGH THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

**LIFE**  
**GROUPS**  
WEEK 13 • JUN 14

### **NORTHSHORE'S COMPELLING STATEMENT**

Hope changes everything.

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### **ICE BREAKER**

What are the best parts about being a part of your congregation?

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### **BACKGROUND**

We are accustomed to dividing life into “spiritual” and “material” things; but Jesus did not make such a division. In many of His parables, He made it clear that a right attitude toward wealth is a mark of spirituality (see Luke 16:1-31). Nowhere did Jesus magnify poverty or criticize the legitimate making of wealth. In Genesis 1:31, God has declared that all things He has made are good. He knows that we need certain things in order to live (Matthew 6:32). Paul in 1 Timothy 6:17 states that God has given us richly all things to enjoy. However, in this portion of Jesus’ sermon, He is pointing out that to possess things is okay but that it is wrong for things to possess us. Jesus’ challenge to His listeners then is the same challenge today; we need to reflect on where we place our value and energy – do we prioritize accumulating wealth and possessions, or do we prioritize serving God and others with love and compassion?

### **REVIEW**

What was meaningful from the above context or the sermon from last Sunday?



**KEY VERSES:** Matthew 6:21

*“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

**READ:** Matthew 6:19-24



**HEAD LEVEL:** *What does it say? These help us to examine what the Word tells us.*

1. What contrasts does Jesus make between earthly treasures and heavenly treasures, and what reasons does He give for choosing one over the other?
2. Jesus says, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” What does this reveal about the connection between desire, value, and devotion?

### DEEPER DISCOVERY


What do the following Scriptures tell us about storing up heavenly treasures?

- 1 Timothy 6:18-19
- Galatians 5:22-23
- Hebrews 11:6
- Colossians 3:1-2, 23-24
- Matthew 25:40




**HEART LEVEL:** *What does it mean? These questions help us shape our beliefs around the objective truth of God’s word.*

1. What does the dichotomy between earthly and heavenly treasures teach us about the values of the Kingdom of God?
2. How does the metaphor of the “healthy” or “unhealthy” eye help explain the spiritual danger of misplaced focus?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says we cannot serve both God and money? What does “serve” imply in this context?

 **HANDS LEVEL:** *What does it mean to me? These questions help us commit to live out the truth in our everyday lives and commit to potential next steps.*

1. What is one daily or weekly rhythm that would help you keep your spiritual vision clear and centered on Christ?
2. How have you been tempted to treasure the resources God has entrusted to you rather than steward those to show God as your greatest treasure?
3. Why is giving to the Lord's work in and through the church an important responsibility for each member of a faith family?

 **MEMORY VERSE:** Matthew 6:24  
*"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."*

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

*(Please remember that these requests are confidential and need to stay within the group.)*