



Forget Yourself: Treasures

February 10 & 11, 2018 – John Ortberg

Note to Leaders: Every small group is different, so we are providing a summary study with additional discussion questions in the Going Deeper section. Please choose the questions that relate best to your group.

Follow up from last week: How did you engage with the practice of fasting this past week?

Connect

1. Share one take-away from this weekend's services and why it mattered to you.
2. What "stuff" do you treasure that the world probably does not value?

Engage

1. Read Matthew 6:19-22. According to this passage:
 - Where is the safest place for us to entrust our investments?
 - Why does our choice of treasure reveal our heart's direction?
 - How does our treasure affect our perception?
 - Why can we not treasure both God and money?
2. Read Deuteronomy 32:9
 - According to this passage, what does God treasure?

Apply

1. How do you react to the idea that God treasures you and all people?
2. What is your honest assessment as to where your treasure is / what do you value the most?
3. Where does your value system need reworking?
4. What are your plans for change in your treasure?

Pray

Lord, in the scripture, we learn that you gave sight to a man who was born blind. We need that kind of re-creation when it comes to our choice of treasure, our heart's direction and the ways in which we "see" people, money and the world. Take us as we are and transform us to be pleasing and honoring to you. Amen



Going Deeper

Connect

1. “Junk = treasure + time” - what do you think?
2. How do you react to the statement, “Money is a good tool, but a bad treasure”?

Engage

1. Read Proverbs 23:4-5
 - The writer of Proverbs gave this advice on money over 2500 years ago. How relevant is the advice today?
2. Read Mark 12:30
 - What is the one thing that both the Old Testament and the New Testament command us to treasure?

Apply

1. How are you doing relative to the standard of Mark 12:30?
2. To what extent are you following the advice of the writer of Proverbs 23:4-5?

Learning Opportunity

Review the recent sermon on Giving (menlo.church > Messages > (Series) *Forget Yourself* > (Title) *Getting the Most Out of Giving*)

Serving Opportunity

Find ways to be generous with your time, talents and resources, to discover new treasures through Menlo.church at menlo.church/serve
Giving financially through Menlo Church? There are many ways to do so, including online giving. See menlo.church/give

Personal Spiritual Practice Idea/experiment

Try the 10-10-80 plan – 10% tithed, 10% saved, 80% to live. Commit to tithing (i.e. giving 10%) to our church for 90 days and see what happens (Malachi 3:10). If you are not satisfied, 100% of your tithe money will be returned, no questions asked. To learn more, go to menlo.church/tithechallenge

The season of Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday. As a group, discuss whether you are ready and willing to commit to trying one of the two types of fasting* during the period between Ash Wednesday and Easter. If group members are willing, ask each person to share what their fasting will be and invite the group to hold one another accountable.

* Two types of fasting to try (from Messages > (Series) *Forget Yourself* > (Title) *Fasting as Feasting*)

1. “Fasting as feasting on God” – not just avoiding food, but making space for God. Start slow – e.g. skip a meal to read and pray; then try two meals, etc. Keep drinking water. If you are a heavy coffee drinker, switch to decaf a few days before fasting otherwise you may experience a distracting headache.
2. “Fasting as caring” – giving up something you enjoy, to have more resources to give to those with less; also to learn not to be obsessed with your own appetite (read Isaiah 58).

