

MAKING CHANGE

INVESTING IN YOUR FINANCIAL HEALTH

WEEK 3 - FAITH OVERVIEW

One of Jesus' favorite encouragements for his followers was to "store your treasures in heaven." By this he meant investing our resources (especially financial) in the things God cares about (meeting the needs of the poor and marginalized, supporting the spread of the gospel, bringing healing on the earth, etc.). The implication, of course, is that we would do those things with no expectation of receiving an earthly reward. Thus, stewarding God's resources so selflessly requires faith: Faith that God will still meet our needs, faith that our humble offerings can be used for more than we can imagine, and faith that our eternal "reward" for such faithfulness will be far greater than anything we can gain for ourselves in this earthly life.

Biblical Financial Wisdom Principle #3: Give Generously

Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Matthew 6:20-21

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read [Matthew 6:19-21](#)

- How do earthly *treasures* of today compare to earthly *treasures* of the people Jesus was talking to? What is today's equivalent of *moths and rust destroying* something?
- What does it mean to *store treasures in heaven*?
- Tim said that people in the first century thought of their "heart" as the place where they made rational decisions. Why is that important to understand for this passage?
- How would the people hearing this message from Jesus understand what God treasures, knowing that God told Noah to build a "treasure chest" of sort?
- What kinds of actions can we take to treasure what God treasures?

2. Read [Matthew 6:22-23](#).

- Tim mentioned Jewish sayings of the time: "A healthy eye is one that looks on others with generosity" and "an evil eye looks on others with stinginess, jealousy and greed". With these sayings in mind, how would you explain what Jesus might be saying to his listeners in this passage?

3. How does [1 Timothy 6:17](#) relate to generosity?