

LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN

"With a Heart of Generosity"

PASTOR JUSTIN ORR

February 14, 2021

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, ²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"

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."

Matthew 6:19–24 ESV

⁴² "And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

Matthew 10:42 ESV

5 ways to be generous that cost you little or nothing:

1. Encouragement: text, phone call, handwritten note.
2. Acts of service; be generous with your time.
3. Be present with the person you are with. Put your phone down and actively listen.
4. Buy the coffee for the car behind you in the drive-through line.
5. Help with the "Reach Out Outreach" and add some extra peanut butter to your grocery cart and bring it on February 17th. Or plan ahead for the one we do next month. Jump in; be a part.

Challenge:

- Where is your heart? Is it generous or are you struggling with a scarcity mindset?
- Which of the 5 ways to be generous will you choose to do this week? Make a plan and do it.

Check out these FREE online studies from Doug Britton for further study:

Choose to Be an Encourager

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/encourage-others

Choose to Treat People with Respect

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/respect-others

Choose to Serve Your Spouse

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/serving-questions

Life Group Homework

For the week of February 14, 2021

MY STORY

- 1) What is one thing you have always want to be able to do?
- 2) How do you recharge your emotional and spiritual batteries?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What challenged you from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER/ TAKING IT HOME

- 4) What are some English euphemisms that would confuse someone who is not an English speaker?
- 5) What would the message be if we took some of these literally?

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The phrases in this passage "eye is healthy" and "eye is bad" are Greek euphemisms. "Eye is healthy" means generous and "eye is bad" means stingy or greedy. Reread this passage and substitute those words for the euphemisms.

- 6) How does it make more sense in the context of the rest of the passage?
- 7) What is this issue really about?
- 8) What does it mean to lay up treasure in heaven, and how would one do it?

"Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. ⁴²And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

Matthew 10:40-42 ESV

- 9) From this passage, what other ways can we store our treasure in heaven or be rewarded?

One key thought to all of this discussion is about the attitude we should have while storing our treasure in heaven. In Matthew Chapter 6 Jesus teaches us not to do things publicly for show or to win the approval of others so that they will think we are spiritual. We are told to do these things in secret so our Father, who is in secret, will reward us.

In the message Pastor Justin gave an example of 5 different ways to be generous with little or no money.

1. Encouragement: text, a phone call, a handwritten note; be intentional.
2. Acts of service; be generous with your time.
3. Be present with the person you are with. Put your phone down and actively listen.
4. Buy the coffee for the car behind you in the drive-through line, or something like this.
5. Help with the "Reach Out Outreach" and add some extra peanut butter to your grocery cart and bring it on February 17th. Or plan ahead for the one we do next month.

CHAIR TIME TOOL

This is the last week for the challenge to read Matthew chapters 5-8. This is known as the *Sermon on the Mount*, and I encourage you to read it in its entirety each day. What is your takeaway from these chapters?

- 1) From these chapters where is your thinking askew from the heart of God? Ask Him to reveal it to you and give you a new thought.
- 2) Take some time this week and thank God for the lessons He has highlighted for you from the chapters.