



Part 9: Kingdom Investing

Todd King, Lead Pastor
June 29 & 30, 2013

*For most of us, it's far easier to gather stuff
than it is to give away stuff.*

This drift toward “more” ends up controlling our lives.

The word for this is greed.

Greed isn't a financial issue; it's a heart issue.

Matthew 6:19-20

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

Jesus is asking us to invest in kingdom activity.

Matthew 6:21

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

How you spend will affect your heart.

Matthew 6:22-23

“The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, 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!”

The word *healthy* also translates as generous.

The word *bad* also translates as envious.

Generosity is what breaks the power of greed in your heart.

Principles

From Andy Stanley: Prioritized, Percentage Giving

Prioritized: we give first to kingdom causes

Percentage: no matter your wealth, give a percentage of your income

From Jesus: Give sacrificially

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.”

In other words, you cannot serve God and money.

Next Steps

If you've sensed a conviction today that you struggle with greed, we offer two classes that help you prioritize your financial world to get to a place where you can be generous toward God and others. **The Whatcom Dream** and **Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace** class will be offered this coming fall. For more information, visit ctkbellingham.com and search for either class.

Small Group Questions

1. Who's your favorite greedy character in TV, movies, or literature? Think Ebenezer Scrooge, Eugene Krabs from Spongebob Squarepants, Mr. Burns from the Simpsons, Dr. Evil, etc.
2. What do you think are some of the sources of us constantly wanting more in life? Where does that come from?
3. Is generosity with people easy for you or difficult? How about generosity in giving to God? Is there consistency between the two or discrepancy?
4. How can you tell who or what you're serving? What indicators can you look for?
5. Where would you say your treasure is? As much as you're comfortable sharing, tell the group where you're having success or struggle in treasuring the right things.
6. How can we pray for you right now?

OUR MISSION | To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.