



GIVE:
Where your
treasure is

MONDAY – What is your treasure?



Matthew 6: 19-21 (MSG) *Don't hoard treasure down here where it gets eaten by moths and corroded by rust or – worse – stolen by burglars. Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it's safe from moths and rust and burglars. It's obvious, isn't it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.*

What are those things that make you feel comfortable; that excite you; that you spend a lot of time and money on?

Treasure is not whether we have much or little; or whether it is material possessions, hobbies, career or ambition – it is about how attached we are to them and what position they take in our life. Who is in the driving seat? Who decides how we use these treasures?

- Can you let God take the things that are important to you and use them?

It is critical to recognize what is plenty. And the world will not tell us this. Only a life committed to Christ will enable us to see when enough is enough. If you need to

build a bigger barn, chances are you have too much “stuff”.

We are expected to be shrewd with what has been entrusted to us. To be faithful and wise with our treasures. It is a journey, as we walk with Jesus, we discover what we actually need. In times of calamity and uncertainty, such as this pandemic, God has a way of refocusing our priorities.

- What is God saying to you about your treasures?

Be brave and pray a courageous prayer for God to use your treasures!

The greatest treasures are those invisible to the eye but found by the heart (Judy Garland)



Prayer: Lord, all that I have is given by You. You have given me the ability and talents to acquire treasures, and for that I give You thanks. Help me to value things that build eternal treasures. Help me to offer what I have and what I can do, back to You. Use my treasures to be an answer to someone else's prayer. AMEN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPt2z6XJ3cA>

TUESDAY – Righteousness and treasure



Proverbs 15: 6 *The house of the righteous contains great treasure, but the income of the wicked brings ruin.*

Proverbs 21: 21 *Whoever pursues righteousness and love, finds life, prosperity and honour.*

Righteousness is a treasure in itself.

The old English origin of 'righteous' is right + wise. I find this a beautiful definition: doing what is right with wisdom. And if we couple that with love, as Proverbs says, we find life, prosperity and honour. A treasure indeed!

Therefore, with all our talents, resources and time let us ask God for the wisdom to use them in the right way – in a manner that would be pleasing to Him.

Jesus warns us against the abundance of possessions (Luke 12: 15) and society is bombarding us with the need to have the latest and greatest. In the latest social

media controversy, all our platforms will soon tell us **exactly** what we need by way of adverts!

According to Adam Hamilton, GIVING is one of the essential practices of the Christian life – we, therefore need to learn to give more than we accumulate. To give of ourselves to others – in every aspect of life – our love, talents, possessions, money and our time.

- Take stock of what you have, perhaps it **is** actually enough.
- Take pleasure in what you already have and be grateful.
- Take joy in the investments you make in people – the return will be high.

Do what is right with wisdom and love.



Prayer: Lord, I need to grow in righteousness. I need Your wisdom to do what You would consider to be right. Shape my life as I seek to be the person You want me to be and as I strive to be generous in the way I share and give. AMEN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdmgpMfnjdU>

WEDNESDAY – Gratitude



2 Peter 1: 3 *His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness.*

Give us this day our daily bread.....

The Walk highlights 3 Keys to a Good Life. Today we look at the first one – GRATITUDE.

Give thanks for what your ALREADY have.

We have a tendency to want more or better and we are experts in justifying why we need another 'one':

- It's old now, an upgrade is necessary.
- It's shabby it needs to be replaced.
- The car is 10 years old, it makes financial sense to replace it.

One of the tools to happiness is: *wanting what we already have.* Adam Hamilton says we achieve

this "By giving thanks for it. For being grateful that we already have it." And asking: do I need another?

Perhaps **you** are living the life that **someone else** dreams about having.

How much "stuff" do you have? Hiding in the back of cupboards? Let us remember that we have been blessed so that we may be a blessing to others. Simplify your life. Give away what you don't need and give thanks to God for what you have, and you will grow in contentment.

- Want what you already have!

Gratitude is the real treasure God wants us to find, because it isn't the pot of gold but the rainbow that colours our world.

(Richelle E Goodrich)



Prayer: Lord, the Giver of all things. Your generosity to me is abundant. As I look around me, I see that I have much to be grateful for. Help me to be content that this is enough. Show me where I may be a blessing. Thank You Lord for all I have. AMEN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXBxImes110>

THURSDAY – Make it count



Matthew 28: 19 & 20 *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

The second Key to a good life is:
LIVE PURPOSEFULLY.

What adds meaning to your life? If everything were stripped away and lost – what would be left behind? Hopefully, your answer is Jesus Christ. HE is your purpose. We then should find meaning not in things but in loving God with all our mind, soul and strength. And when we do this, we automatically find purpose in loving and caring for a broken world as Jesus did. When we live for a purpose larger than ourselves, we find a life of love and giving that brings meaning and hope.

“God wants us to be constantly stretching and growing. There are new levels for you to rise up to. There are new treasures within you to discover. Explore what God has placed within you because He has purpose for everything within you. (Victoria Osteen).”

A life of pleasure is not the same as a life of meaning. *I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind (Ecclesiastes 1: 14).* Let us not chase after the wind but listen to Jesus who says life is found in giving not taking.

Let us go and make disciples. Let us live out our purpose.



Prayer: Lord, there is so much more to life than what the world offers. And there is so much more to me than what I know. Please align my heart, my will and my ideas to You. Give to me the vision of my purpose. AMEN.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kA9zA7O6bH0>

FRIDAY – Generosity

Does your wallet rule your Bible or does your Bible rule your wallet? (Adam Hamilton)



Corinthians 9: 11 & 12 *You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.*

The last Key is GENEROSITY – towards God and others.

Jesus talked a lot about money – and he wasn't preaching the prosperity gospel! Money can either destroy or deepen our relationship with God.

Generosity to others, is generosity to God. As Adam Hamilton (AH) says: *Those who are generous with their time and money are putting love into action, and so experience Jesus' words (firsthand) – it is more blessed to give than to receive.*

It is true that giving blesses the giver: it gives a sense of well-

being and purpose. It is not about quantity but about the willingness to share. If we are modelling our lives on Jesus, a generous spirit should be second nature to us. Generosity needs to be a habit, and practice makes perfect!

Humanity is in crisis. A world that needs love and generosity, now more than ever. A world that needs God. YOU are God's hands; YOU are God's means of generosity. God is asking you to care for His people.

Ultimately generosity will shape our heart and the way we live (AH).

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give
(Churchill)

or as Jesus says: Give and it will be given to you.



Prayer: Thank You Lord for all I have. Help me to become more generous. Help me to live below my means so that I may help others live. Use my hands to bless Your people. AMEN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqIG4yKrX-k>