Choose Your Master Text: Matthew 6:19-24 May 28, 2022

Big Idea: To live in true financial freedom, Jesus must be your only master.

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text says about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Question #3 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

Question #4 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is the application?

- a) What is one specific way I can live by these truths, or trust in these promises today?
- b) What is the next step that I need to take too see this happen?

Question #5

- a) What comes into your mind when you think of 'financial freedom'
- b) **Rd Haggai 2:8 & Psalm 50:12:** How should knowing that all wealth belongs to God and He entrusts it to us, impact how we steward it?

The life that serves Jesus as its Master has...

Point 1: One DESIRE: TREASURE in Heaven (vv. 19-21)

Question: Where your treasure is there your heart will be. What treasure are you laying up?

Question #6

- a) Rd. vv. 19-20: What command does Jesus give to us here? What does it mean to 'lay up' treasure?
- b) What is the difference between treasure on earth and treasure in heaven?
- d) How do we lay up treasure in heaven day by day?
- e) What area(s) are you tempted the most to pursue earthly treasure over heavenly treasure?
- f) How does the gospel free you from the need to prioritize those things over treasure in heaven?

Question #7

"Financial freedom is not ultimately about what's in your wallet, but what has captured your heart."

- a) Rd v. 21: What does Jesus mean when He says this?
- b) Why does all stewardship (faithful or not) begin with the heart?
- c) How is the true position of our heart revealed through what kind of treasure we desire to amass most (Even though our lips may try to tell something different)?
- d) What earthly treasure often has the greatest priority in your heart?
- e) What fruits are evident when you don't have it (or can't get it)?
- f) What do you really want by pursuing that? Will you ever get what you really want from it? Why not?
- g) How does the gospel free you from having to lay up that earthly treasure (Use Scripture)?

Point 2: One <u>DEVOTION</u>: <u>JESUS</u> Alone (vv. 22-24)

Question: You cannot serve God and money. Which master will you choose?

Question #8

- a) Rd vv. 22-23: What does Jesus mean by your eye being healthy?
- b) What does Jesus mean by your eye being bad?
- c) Why is it impossible to live in financial freedom is your eye is bad?
- d) What are the fruits evident in the life of one whose eye is healthy?

Question #9

- a) Rd v. 24: Is it possible to serve both Jesus and wealth? Why or why not?
- b) What are some fruits that are evident when you are trying to serve both God and wealth?
- c) Why does faithful stewardship have to begin with choosing Jesus as our Master?
- d) Where are you most tempted to try and serve two Masters?
- e) Spend time in prayer for one another for these areas.

Question #10 SERIES PREVIEW

- a) What are you most looking forward to in this series?
- b) What question(s) do you have about God's design for financial stewardship?
- c) How do you want to grow in your relationship to Christ through this series?
- d) Pray individually and as a group asking the Lord to prepare your hearts for this series.

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group/in accountability in prayer...

- a) REVERENCE before God: Jesus, You are the Lord of ______.
- b) HUMILITY before God: Confess ® repent of prioritizing treasure on earth over treasure in heaven.
- c) THANKSGIVING to God: Thank Jesus for all He's entrusted to you; and equipped you to steward it.
- d) <u>SUPPLICATION</u> to God: i) An increasing heart/desire for and multiplication of laying up treasures in heaven over treasure on earth. ii) Wisdom to faithfully steward what God has entrusted to you. iii) That Jesus would be your only Master.

Memory Verse:

"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 6:24