

# SERMON STUDY GUIDE



## “True Wealth” - PREACHED ON MAY 18 & 19, 2024

### READ

Read Matthew 5- 6:24. Read it each day, perhaps in a different translation each day (A great resource for looking at various translations is [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)).

### DISCUSS

What was God showing you as you read last week’s passages? What is standing out about the Sermon on the Mount? What phrase from the Lord’s Prayer resonated with you this week?

### STUDY

In the first half of Matthew 6 (1-18), Jesus describes a Christian’s private life in “the secret place” (giving, praying, fasting); in the second half, he is concerned with our public business in the world (money, possessions, food/drink, clothing, ambition). In both areas, Jesus is consistent—Christians are to act differently than others in popular culture. It was common knowledge in the ancient world that wealth wasn’t safe. It could be stolen or corrupted. Here, Jesus is calling us to something eternal.

1. What, according to Jesus, are the most important things in life? How should we store up treasures in heaven?
2. The Old Testament has a consistent view of wealth and what we should do with it. Read Proverbs 23:4-5 and Ecclesiastes 5:10-20 for descriptions of what happens to wealth and how it affects us. What do these passages emphasize?
3. Many people hold two jobs and are able to satisfy two bosses. So why would Jesus say you can only serve one master (v. 24)?
4. Let’s look at how the Old Testament talks about serving two Gods. Read Judges 2: 8-19. What happens when Israel follows other gods (the Baals) and the one true God?
5. What insight does this passage offer to Matthew 6:24?

### PRACTICE

Keep track of how you spend your money this week. Do you spend your money in a way that honors God, or are you serving money? We see an average of 5,000 ads a day, often leading to discontentment and a sense of want that overwhelms. Spend time this week consciously thinking about where you spend your money. Wait 24 hours to make purchases. Unsubscribe from emails and limit the ads you see on social media to practice being content with what God has provided for us.