Everyday Jesus – **wk 5 – Does it really matter?**

**Does Jesus invade our life – home, work, school, social life?**

**God and the rest of the week! Monday thru Saturday**

**Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. / Matthew 6:33 – will be address later.**

**Today an area that reflects everyday life almost more than anything**

**MONEY - Why talk about it at all?**

**Because you care about it and God cares about you.**

**Because the Bible talks about it a lot!**

**To walk this out Every Day with Jesus we need to understand**

**Four Primary Principles About Money from Scripture**

**1. Everything we have belongs to the LORD!**

**What you have been given – make you a steward of his.**

**Psalm 24:1The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.**

**God claims exclusive ownership of everything in this world.**

**Ps 50:10 …Every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.**

**God cares about what He gives you to take care of. This should immediately affect how we view money and how we use it.**

**2. Money is not evil, it is neutral**

**It can however be used for evil and can become an unhealthy pursuit.**

**1 Timothy 6:10 "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.”**

**Hebrews 13:5 "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”**

**Generosity is a way to ensure we chase God not Money**

**3. Everything we use and spend our money on matters to God!**

**In this life we trade our time for money. So, in many ways our money represents a portion of our lives, energy, passions, and time.**

**How we use out time matters to God.**

**Ephesians 5:15 says “Therefore, be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time for the days are evil.”**

**That movie, resturant, game, car, object, clothing, shoes, etc. matter to God. They are a reflection of our values and cares.**

**4. Trusting and obeying God with our money – is an act of worshiping**

**Every time we spend our money and use it, it is to be an act of worship.**

**Money is an issue of discipleship with God.**

**Luke 12:32** **“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

**How we use our money is a direct reflection of our heart!**

**That is why giving is a way we can tangibly express in worship what we value in our heart. It represents our time and energy.**

**How to keep the Main thing the Main thing:**

**How to fend off the More Monster of Materialism.**

**Matthew 6:19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.**

**\*\* Do not pursue things but pursue the king**

**What you pursue in life need to fundamentally change.**

**What you focus your eyes on needs to drastically shift.**

**6:20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.**

**\*\* Realize, things will not be going with us but we can send them ahead**

**The only thing we can take with us are the things of eternal significance. People and God’s Word.**

**No U-Haul’s parked in heaven. Everything is staying back.**

**Send it head. Get on God’s lay away plan - God is faithful to use it, but not always on our timetable.**

**6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

**\*\* Know that giving is never about dollars, but it is about devotion**

**Guy pursuing a girl, pays for things out of devotion w/o reluctance. Devotion produces sacrifice. You give to where your heart is.**

**2 Corinthians 8:1 And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. 2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord’s people. 5 And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. 7 But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you —see that you also excel in this grace of giving.**

**2 Cor 9:6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.**

**As followers of Christ we should want to give / can’t wait to give/ think it thru / plan for it / it’s worship / and get excited about its potential to make a difference in people’s lives.**

**Matthew 6:22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!**

**If we remain blind, it will bring great darkness & misery in our life. Jesus is challenging them to open their eyes to this issue.**

**Matthew 6:24 “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.**

**\*\* Decide who will be your master**

**We all have a master – which one is yours? Career, money, earthly security, possessions, comfort – or Christ?**

**Matthew 6:25 “Therefore do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? 28 “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?**

**\*\* Do not obsess over what you do not have**

**Grow in contentment – true wealth is living everyday content.**

**Greed, envy and discontentment are spiritual poison.**

**1 Timothy 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.**

**We need to fight for contentment! Kill the more monster! It will drag you down in chains and control you!**

**Philippians 4:11 …I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength. / 19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.**

**Paul is echoing the words of Jesus here in Matthew 6**

**Matthew 6:31 So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.**

**\*\* Trust that God is our source not our self - Trust in God’s provision**

**We have got to place our security in the LORD (vs. our own security)**

**I will trust his plan and design for my finances** **– and obey it.**

**I will trust that it is reaching lives and multiplied to bless others**

**Matthew 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.**

**First things first - I want to talk a min about our giving…**

**Tithing is not really giving - it is returning back to God - keeping what belongs to God is stealing - Malachi 3:** **8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. 9 You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me.**

**When we seek to live out God’s will and way with our possessions, money and needs – and steward wisely what He gives us - God will take care of us and his Kingdom work.**

**Matthew 6:34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.**

**Stop stressing and start trusting. God has got his kids taken care of.**

**This tissue like veil separates this life from the next…**