

Connection Group Discussion Questions

For the week of October 23, 2016

Matthew 6:19-21

These questions are to be used as a spring board for discussion.

Answers may or may not be found in the sermons.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Common English Bible (CEB)

¹⁹ “Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. ²⁰ Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don’t eat them and where thieves don’t break in and steal them. ²¹ Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Connection Questions:

1. Discuss what you know about the game of Monopoly. What is a good strategy in this game?

2. What similarities can you see between how this game is played and how people play the game of life?

3. Reflect on the passages just before and after Matthew 6:19-21. What were the treasures Jesus was referring to in our text?

4. In Rev. Adkins' sermon he shares the story of Erin Mirabella, a cyclist in the 2004 Summer Olympics. She finished fourth but received the Bronze Medal. The cyclist who finished third tested positive for a banned substance. Upon appeal the ruling was overturned. She said, "Mailing back that medal was one of the hardest things I've ever done, but I am completely at peace with it. There are more important things than a medal, even in the Olympics. Now as a mom, I understand that even more." Discuss what her statement means to you.

5. Jesus talks about a certain kind of community that represents people in God's kingdom. How is the community different from the norms we experience in our communities today?

6. What are some things we could do to be more representative of the kind of community Jesus talks about?

7. Why is community so important to faith development from Jesus' perspective?

8. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Describe people in your life you have witnessed that seemed to have had their heart and their faith in God.

9. "Christians live to give." Do you agree with this statement? If so how is this value different than the norms that tend to be valued in our culture?

10. The early church primarily grew because of the way it treated outsiders in their culture. What could the church today learn from the way the early church conducted itself?