Storing Up Treasure KZ Lesson Sunday 6/7/2020

Memory Verse: Luke 12:34 (NKJV)

**34**For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Target Thought: God's Kingdom for us is a way of life.

Have you ever been to a party where they played a Treasure Hunt game? It is great fun! The game is played by giving each player a list of clues which, if followed correctly, will lead them to find a "treasure." Many times the treasure is just a cheap toy or a piece of candy, so when you play the game, it is important to remember that the fun is in the hunt, not in the "treasure."

Hunting for treasure is something that has interested people for a long, long time. Treasure Island is one of the most popular books ever written. Written by Robert Louis Stevenson, it has been enjoyed by boys, girls, and even grownups ever since it was written way back in the 1800s. It is a story filled with mystery and adventure about a young man named Jim Hawkins who finds a map in a pirate's sea chest and begins a search for buried treasure. If you haven't read the book, perhaps you have seen the movie Muppet Treasure Island which is based on the book.

You might be surprised to know that Jesus had something to say about seeking treasure. One day he said to his followers, "Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be." (Luke 12:33-34 NLT)



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So, how do we lay up treasures in heaven as Jesus said we should? We do it by taking our eyes off of our own selfish wants, and look at others and their needs. We give to the poor, we help those in need, we love others as we love ourselves, in other words we love and obey God and His commands. Those are things that will build treasures in heaven and there is nothing that can take them away.

First of all we have to know what true treasure is. True treasure is our relationship with The Father and Jesus. His Kingdom must be the most important to us, so much so that it changes and rules our life everyday. We love God with all of our heart, our soul, and our strength.

# Deuteronomy 6:5 (NKJV)

**5**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

When we let God and His Kingdom be the most important thing in our lives and we live for Him, we are storing up true treasure in Heaven. When we invest into the Kingdom of God, there are rewards for us both now and when we get to Heaven. However that is not why we do it, we do it because we love God and His Kingdom and we want to serve Him.

Playing a Treasure Hunt game is fun and books about pirates and hidden treasure may make for exciting reading, but building treasure in heaven is very serious business. Let's ask God to help us to search for the right kind of treasure.

Father, we sometimes look at all the treasures that this world offers and we lose sight of what you want from us. Help us to serve you by helping others and, in so doing, build our treasure chest in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

1. How do we lay up treasures in Heaven?

2. What is true treasure?

3. Why do we store up treasures in Heaven?