



## SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the message this week we learned our goal in personal finance is generosity. However, in order to be successfully generous we must have a plan. As we understand the grace God has given us we find contentment in His generosity. As contentment nourishes our soul we are then moved to compassion for others just as Jesus had compassion. Generosity is our goal and it takes work to make it happen.

## WARM UP

How did your parents handle money? Did they fight about it, keep it quiet, work together?

## THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

### READ:

Matthew 6:25-34

- What emotion comes to mind as you read and hear Jesus' teaching in this passage?
- What does your initial emotion reveal about your faith in God's provision for you?
- Imagine you were in the audience in Matthew 6 and had just heard Jesus teach this passage. What does this teaching reveal to you about God and His concern for you?

### WATCH THIS:

<https://youtu.be/2P7sLWqmK3w>

- Which animal do you find most impressive? Why?
- Isn't it amazing how these animals have adapted to their environments? God is supremely creative. How does seeing the intricate details of these animals possess in order to defend themselves influence your belief that God cares for you even more than these animals?

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**ACTIVITY:**

- 1) Use a sheet of paper and draw 4 columns. Write the words: **Spiritual**, **Emotional**, **Social**, **Mental** (one word for each column).
- 2) Write 5-6 provisions God has given them in each column (i.e. 5-6 spiritual provisions, 5-6 emotional provisions, 5-6 social provisions, 5-6 mental provisions).
- 3) Spend 10 or so minutes going around the group sharing with each person sharing their chart.
  - As you reflect on your chart and can now visibly see all the different ways God has/is providing for you, what thoughts are you having right now?
  - How does the truth of your chart inform your understanding of Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6? Does this excite you? Discourage you? If so, how can we encourage you?

In light of Jesus' teaching, we are all faced with a question; WILL WE TRUST GOD AND PURSUE HIM?

We know that the goal of personal finance is not to store up treasure that we cannot take with us but to be generous. Matthew 6:25-34 instructs us to not even focus on treasure, instead we are to focus on growing in Christlikeness and let God continue to provide for us.

WILL WE RUN AFTER JESUS AND TRUST THAT HE WILL TAKE CARE OF US?

**CLOSE YOUR TIME BY WATCHING THIS:**

<https://youtu.be/cvkJ6069uk8> (Francis Chan)

**DIGGING DEEPER**

Spend the next 10 minutes going around the group completing this sentence: (choose 1 or 2)

- Is everything in my budget a need? Yes or No
- If my budget fell apart my life would fall apart. True or False? Why?
- Money is a priority for my family but chasing Jesus is everything. True or False?

**CLOSING THOUGHT**

If we are to pursue Jesus and not spend our lives consumed with money, we must be intentional about our pursuit. Watch this clip by John Piper as he encourages us to focus solely on Jesus and the Kingdom.

<https://youtu.be/0elhYaESJKY>