

## **LIFEGROUP NOTES: MATTHEW 6:19-34**

*As ever, please use (or discard!) these ideas as is most suitable for your group. Don't feel you have to use everything.*

### **Read Mt 6:19-34**

1. How are you presently storing up for yourself earthly treasures (6:19)? What does Jesus say will be the outcome? In what ways have you already experienced the fleeting nature of earthly treasure?
2. Over the course of your Christian life, how have you stored up treasures in heaven (6:20)? How are you doing this currently? Think of practical ways in which earthly resources can be used for eternal good. How can we strive to increase our standard of giving instead of our standard of living?
3. See v.21: what experience do you have of your heart following your treasure? What is capturing your heart currently? What stops you following Christ wholeheartedly? Will it last, or pass away?
4. Can you honestly say that God is your only master (6:24)? What person or pursuit or thing competes most strongly for first-place in your life? How can you keep the Lord on His rightful throne? Who can hold you accountable in this commitment?
5. See v.33: what does Jesus say our top priority should be? What does Jesus say about our heavenly Father in vv.25-34 to reassure us that He will take provide all we need to fulfil His kingdom purposes?
6. Consider this famous quotation from C S Lewis: "We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased." Why is it often easier to celebrate worldly things than eternal things? How can we help one another strengthen our passion for "infinite joy" over "mud pies"?

### **Responding in Prayer**

- Thank God for His faithfulness to us. Pray about areas of your heart that are threatened by treasuring the wrong things, and ask the Lord to set you free.

*Eddie Larkman, May 2017*