



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017

360 DISCUSSION GUIDE

A TALE OF TWO KINGDOMS

MATTHEW 6:19-34

We all grew up with tales of Kings and Kingdoms, but those tales soon give way to the far more deliberate and far less glamorous routine of daily living. Our thoughts are consumed by the stress of the job and the stack of bills piling up on the kitchen counter.

The call of Jesus is to lift our gaze above the routine of daily living and embrace a kingdom; a kingdom we were created for; a kingdom in which we will thrive and flourish; a kingdom ruled by a loving heavenly Father who knows what we need.

Jesus warns us of the dangers of storing up the wrong treasure; serving the wrong master and pursuing the wrong kingdom. He invites us to “Seek first [Our Father’s] kingdom and [our Father’s] righteousness,” and promises, “all these things will be given to you as well.”

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TWO TREASURES (vv. 19-21)

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

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

1. If someone was on the outside looking in, what might they say you treasure?
2. What might God, he knows your heart, say that you treasure?
3. In the gospels, treasures are largely associated with our money and possessions. Jesus tells the rich young man, “Go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. (Matthew 19:21).” In Luke, Jesus issues the same challenge to anyone who would enjoy the riches of the kingdom, “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... (Luke 12:24).”
 - a. What are some ways we can use our wealth to store up treasures in heaven?
 - b. What are some other ways we can “store up treasures in heaven?”
4. What do the things we treasure reveal about our hearts?
5. How do we change our heart orientation?

TWO MASTERS (v. 24)

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.

1. While you can work for a couple of different employers, you cannot be owned by two masters without favoring one over the other. These verses are not a question of who (or what)

you give your time to, but who (or what) owns you. What are some of the ways our possessions can own us?

2. “Despise,” in context, does not mean to hate, but to neglect or choose one over the other. How often do we choose the things of this world over the things of God?
3. What are some things we can do to keep us from being mastered by our possessions?

TWO KINGDOMS (vv. 31-33)

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

1. What are some of the things people in Jesus’ day seemed to be preoccupied with?
2. What are some of the things the people around us seem to be preoccupied with?
3. What should we be preoccupied with?
4. How would you describe God’s kingdom?
5. How do we pursue God’s kingdom above everything else?
6. How would you describe God’s righteousness?
7. How do we pursue God’s righteousness above all else?
8. What are some differences we might notice if we were pursuing God’s kingdom and his righteousness rather than being preoccupied with the things of this world?
9. What are some differences others might notice?
10. What are some steps we can take to be more attached to the things of God than we are the things of this world?