



**Series:** The Joy of Living a Generous Life

**Passage** Matthew 6:19-34

**Title** Generous in Giving

**Speaker:** Dave Menard

**Discussion Starter:** Money plays an important role in all of our lives. But if we are honest the love of money is a stronghold for most of us. What kind of foothold does the love of money have in your life and how does it effect you?

### **The Danger of Loving Money** (Matthew 6:19-24)

- Discuss how the love of money is **deceptively toxic** to us?
- Pastor David also mentioned how the love of money is DECEPTIVELY: **Insidious, Idolatrous, and Enslaving**. Discuss the meaning of these terms and why you agree / disagree with them.
- What truth is Jesus revealing about wealth and treasures on earth?
- What did Jesus mean when He said "The lamp of the body is the eye"?
- Does where we spend our money reveal anything about the condition of our heart for God and His kingdom?.. and how does that relate to us being generous?
- Discuss the various ways the love of money can manifest itself in people's lives (Materialism, Identity, Hoarder, Etc.). Discuss how these behaviors are really a form of idolatry against God.
- What are some of the convincing things we tell ourselves to justify our behavior as either... **spenders** who love buying stuff (materialism), or **spenders** who do so to portray an image (to promote a certain identity or worth), or a **saver / hoarder** who saves more than what is healthy (for control and security)?
- Do you think it is ungodly to go into debt? Why? What is the relationship with debt and the love of money and how can this cause someone to be deceptively enslaved?

### **Lies We Believe About Money** (Matthew 6:25-34; Galatians 5:22-23; Luke 16:10)

- Have you ever been in a place where you have said to yourself... "If I just had more money I would be able to save more and give more to God?" Discuss how the deception of such thinking hinders our personal growth, our relationship to Jesus, our relationship to friends/ loved ones?
- Why does God care about how we use our money and why does He want us to be generous?
- How does God want YOU to grow in the way you view and use money?
- Consider the summary instruction Jesus is giving us in Matthew 6:33. What does this reveal about where we should focus our priorities? What promises can we hold on to that will enable us to live abundantly in Christ?