ALDERWOOD

MESSAGE OUTLINE

Sunday, November 8, 2026

Title: Are you in control of your money?
Texts: Matthew 6:19-24
Big Idea: Your money will shape who you become.

Are you in control of your money?
Or is your money controlling you?

Your money will shape who you become.

Matthew 6:19-20 “Don’t store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. [20] But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Insight #1: Your heart will follow your money.

Matthew 6:22 “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light.

Ancient Eye Sayings

Healthy Eye = Generous Heart
Bad Eye = Greedy Heart

Proverbs 22:9 A generous person will be blessed,
for he shares his food with the poor.

Proverbs 22:9 A [person with a good eye] will be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

Proverbs 28:22 A greedy one is in a hurry for wealth; he doesn’t know that poverty will come to him.

Proverbs 28:22 A [person with a bad eye] is in a hurry for wealth; he doesn't know that poverty will come to him.

Matthew 6:22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light.

Matthew 6:23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light within you is darkness, how deep is that darkness!

Psalm 4:6b Let the light of your face shine on us, Lord.

Insight #2: Greed blocks out God's presence.

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Insight #3: Allegiance given to money is allegiance taken from God.

What one step of generosity is Jesus inviting me to take?

LIFEGROUPS

MESSAGE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Sunday, November 8, 2026

LOOK BACK (5-10 MINUTES)

Open your group with a moment to **connect** and look back.

1. How is everyone doing? Did anything notable happen this week?
2. Did anything in the reading for this week impact you?

DISCUSS THE MESSAGE (30-45 MINUTES)

No one likes to talk about money in church. Except for Jesus. He talked about it all the time—not because he wanted something from us, but because he wants something for us.

In this three-week series, we're going to wrestle with three simple but searching questions: **Who is your master? What do you love? Who will you trust?** As we listen to the teaching of Jesus and the wisdom of Scripture, we'll discover that money isn't just a resource—it's a revealer. It exposes our hearts, shapes our lives, and quietly competes for our allegiance. This week, we are in **Matthew 6:19 24, and the big idea is: Your money will shape who you become.**

Use these questions to discuss the message from Sunday, focusing on how you can **grow** as an everyday follower of Jesus and how you can **go** accomplish what Jesus calls you to do.

1. Have someone read **Matthew 6:19-20**. Jesus contrasts treasures stored on earth, which are vulnerable to decay and theft, with treasures stored in heaven. Why are earthly treasures so enticing despite being temporary, and what does storing up treasure in heaven look like in our day-to-day decisions?

2. Have someone read **Matthew 6:21**. We often assume our money follows what we care about, but Jesus states that our heart will follow our treasure. How does looking at your recent financial habits reveal where your heart is actually being directed?

3. Have someone read **Matthew 6:22**. The teaching contrasts a "healthy eye" that produces a body full of light with a greedy heart. How does cultivating a clear, generous perspective protect our whole spiritual life from becoming darkened by greed?

4. Considering the diagnostic question of whether you control your money or your money controls you, what is one tangible area of your budget or spending where you need to **grow** in loosening your grip and honoring God with greater generosity?

5. Since a generous heart actively reflects God's kingdom, how can you **go** and use your personal financial resources or hospitality this week to meet a concrete need for someone who is struggling, demonstrating the love and provision of Christ to them?

CLOSE AND PRAY (5-10 MINUTES)

As the discussion comes to a close, transition to a time of prayer. Praying together is one of the best ways for your group to **connect.** Often, splitting into smaller groups for prayer can be beneficial. This can look many different ways, but the goal is for your group to be comfortable praying together, sharing what is really going on in your lives, and asking God to work as you follow Jesus together.