



No Worries (3): The Power of Possessiveness

Psalm 24:1; Matthew 6:19-24; Colossians 1:15-16

OPEN

What are things people possess in life (or think they possess)?

How much of your worry has to do with possessiveness (stuff, things, people, relationships, positions...)?

DISCUSS

Read Psalm 24:1 and Colossians 1:15-16. What are the main points of these verses?

- Do you approach our world and your life with big idea of these verses? Why or why not?

The reality? We live quite possessively with the things, people, and power in our lives. Jesus knew this, which is why in the Sermon on the Mount he goes after this issue (Mat 6:19-24).

These are challenging words. A few notes about this passage:

- Treasures are the things we prize in life. The things we take pride in. The things most valuable to us.
 - *What are the treasures in YOUR life...right now? Really think about this, because what we treasure takes many forms.*
- The eye (6:22-23) being healthy (good) or unhealthy (bad) speaks to the value and reality of generosity in our lives (or not).
 - *On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your generosity level? Is it easy or hard for you to give away your time, talents, money, and possessions?*



- In the last portion (6:24), money means resources and possessions—which may include our money. Jesus tells us that what we treasure and what focuses the attention of our “eye” will determine what we serve (worship). Jesus calls us to a black and white reality...
 - *What do your thoughts, attitudes and actions reveal about what you are serving in life?*

By this point you may be feeling a little uncomfortable. Good...you are normal! Jesus knew our humanity and he is very intentionally challenging our false possessiveness—the change the way we think about these things.

So let’s be honest. How much of your worry in life is connected to the things you treasure? To your resources or possessions? To your title, status, or image? Who or what are you wanting to hold onto (hoard) with the people and things in your life vs. being generous?

- Spend some time in your group being honest with what God is revealing to you.

Close you time in prayer by doing two things:

- Thanking God for creating all we have (Psalm 24:1 and Col 1:15-16) and giving us abundance in our lives.
- Confessing where we have clung to (possessed) more than we should have.

YOUR NEXT STEP...

- How will you consciously relax your possessive grip on the people and things of this world? Be specific and track your progress and awareness this week.