



## Grow Group Leader Notes

Week 9 | October 26-29

The Grip of Gold  
Matthew 6:19-24

### THE BIG IDEA

Whatever we treasure most will shape us most.

### MEMORY VERSE

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

### NEXT WEEK'S TEXT

Matthew 6:25-34

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Invite your Grow Group to bless the families we are serving through the Christmas Store by purchasing gifts for the 400 parents and caregivers who will attend. You can visit our Amazon wish list by scanning the QR code on the Christmas Store handout in your Grow Group room or scanning the QR code to the right.



## DISCUSS

 **Read Matthew 6:19-24**

### **Listening to Jesus**

As you reflect on our worship gathering this week, what is the primary message of truth you sensed God speaking to you?

### **Mammon** (*scripture reference at right in blue*)

- How does your understanding of Matthew 6:24 shift when you consider that Jesus said, “you cannot serve both God and *Mammon*” (*Mammon* meaning, “that in which one puts their trust” – which includes but is not limited to money)?
- Where are you most tempted to place your trust besides God?
- Why will a heart caught between two treasures always be restless?

*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**.*

*Matthew 6:24*

### **5 Grips of Possessions**

What do you think Amy meant when she said, “materialism blinds us before it binds us”?

- Amy mentioned 5 ways possessions get ahold of our hearts by falsely promising:
  - 1) Security** (we check our accounts more than we pray, measuring our peace by numbers on a screen)
  - 2) Significance** (our worth is tied to our wealth, what we have reflects our spiritual health)
  - 3) Supremacy** (our financial success gives us power and makes us feel better than others)
  - 4) Self-Sufficiency** (in our temptation toward independence, we stop praying for daily bread and we stop trusting God to provide)
  - 5) Self-Indulgence** (luxury becomes necessity, expecting good things to fill the emptiness only God can satisfy)
- Which of these 5 grips of materialism most resonates with you?
- Now that you recognize how possessions possess us, how is God inviting you to respond?

### **Parable of the Rich Fool**

*(scripture references at right in green)*

Read Luke 12:15-21

- How does this parable Jesus told help you understand the difference between storing up treasures in heaven or on earth?
- If life does not consist of an abundance of possessions, what do you think true life does consist of?
- How might God be inviting you to be rich toward him this week? What does being rich toward God mean to you?

<sup>15</sup> Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; **life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.**” <sup>16</sup> And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. <sup>17</sup> He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ <sup>18</sup> “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain.’ <sup>19</sup> And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’” <sup>20</sup> “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’” <sup>21</sup> “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not **rich toward God.**”

Luke 12:15-21

### **Listening Guide**

- How has your Listening Guide journey been going lately? What steps of faith has God been inviting you to take that you would like to share with us?

## **PRAY**

Gather in smaller groups of 2-3 people to share honestly about how God is convicting you of lesser treasures that are shaping you more than you realize, and how God is inviting you to treasure him with your whole heart today.

Take turns praying for one another as we ask God to help us loosen our grip on that which grips us, and to give freely and trust God fully, because he is our ultimate treasure.

grow  
groups