



Jesus' gospel is not just the offer of salvation, but the declaration of sovereignty. This is the clear message of his Sermon on the Mount. It is a call to find the truly blessed life by taking a narrow path most won't choose—the way of King Jesus.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick began by reminding us that “Jesus talks about money more than any other subject except the kingdom of God.” Why do you think Jesus talks so much about money (there are more than 2000 verses in Scripture that deal with money and possessions)? Follow up: Why do you think we don't like to talk about money much in the church?

2 THE KING KNOWS... that money is after his throne. Read **Matthew 6:19-24**. What stands out to you the most about the view Jesus has about treasure/money? Follow up: Why do you think people try to serve both God and money simultaneously? Why is it impossible/undoable to serve God and money?

3 Complete the following sentence: “If I had more money, I would ...” Read **Luke 12:15**. Why do you think Jesus pictured greed as something for us to guard against? When has greed snuck up on you? Follow up: What can we do to guard against greed?

4 WHEN MONEY IS ENTHRONED... It blinds us. You cannot stay in the way of Jesus when you are constantly focused on money. Read **Matthew 6:22**. Rick pointed out that money worship blinds you to the temporality of stuff, the inability of stuff to give meaning, and to the anxiety it produces. How have you experienced some of these things? Follow up: What can we do to prevent ourselves from being blinded?

5 WHEN MONEY IS ENTHRONED... It binds you. The goal of the dark powers behind the money god is your bondage. Read **Luke 12:13-21**. Why does Jesus use such a harsh word (fool) to refer to this man? What was wrong/foolish with his plan to build bigger barns? Follow up: Why do possessions sometimes seem to be more important to us than they actually are? What can we do to combat the hold money often has on us?

6 TO DETHRONE MONEY... Check your vision. Having good eyes takes good discipline. Rick shared some disciplines that improve his vision (regular corporate worship, developing an attitude of gratitude, practicing confession and mutual prayer). How have practices like these helped you improve your vision? Follow up: What else can you do to make sure that the money “you own” doesn't “own you”?

7 TO DETHRONE MONEY... Invest in the mission. Jesus is not removing the desire to invest; he is redirecting it. Read **Matthew 6:19-21**. Why should we store up heavenly treasures rather than earthly ones? Practically speaking, how can we store up treasure in heaven (share some examples of how we do that as a church)? Follow up: How does your relationship to the things of this world impact your willingness to be rich toward God (share some examples of how you're learning to be more intentional in this area)?

