

GROUP STUDY GUIDE

WEEK OF 10.22.23 | AWAKEN TO PERSPECTIVE

WARM UP QUESTION

What was your most valued treasure when you were a kid?

DISCUSS

Read [Matthew 6:19-24](#)

- Why do you think Jesus used the word treasure in these verses? What are some examples of treasures that we might have in our lives?
- The order of the statement in verse 21 is counterintuitive. We might think our treasure would follow our hearts, but Jesus is clear that our hearts actually follow our treasure. Where or how have you seen this play out in your own life?
- A comparison is given between treasures on earth and treasures in heaven. Treasures on earth are susceptible to being damaged or stolen. Treasures in heaven can never be damaged or stolen. In what ways have you tried to store up earthly treasure, only to realize that it doesn't last? What are some examples of storing up treasures in heaven? What do you think that looks like?
- Read verse 24 again. Jesus doesn't say that it's bad to have money; He says it's bad to serve it. What does serving money look like, or how has it looked in your life? What would it look like to serve God instead? How can you serve Him with your time, talent, and treasures?

Read [Matthew 6:25-34](#)

- Take note of all the times Jesus uses the word "worry." Why do you think He repeats it? Where do you see worry play out in your life?
- Jesus references birds and flowers in verses 26-30. What do you notice about these verses? What do they tell you about God's care for His creation? What do they tell you about His care for you?
- Reread the questions asked in verse 31, then look at Jesus' response in verse 32 in the NLT: "These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs." How often do the questions of verse 31 dominate your thoughts? How would your life look different if these questions were never in your thoughts? What do you need to be awakened to about God's character to release these worries?

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- Elevating our sights to an eternal perspective means putting our trust in God and living for what matters most rather than what's temporary. How does verse 33 emphasize this statement? What does it look like for you to seek God's Kingdom first?
- Seeking God first gives us a new perspective. It gives us eyes to see and ears to hear. God isn't just number one on a list of priorities we have on a page. He is the page. What in your life is taking the place of God in your priorities? What can you do about it this week?

RESPOND

Reflect on what you just discussed. What is God prompting you to do next so that He can do a work in you? How about through you? Share your next step with your group, including when you'll do it, and write it in your Awaken Guide (page 66).

PRAY

Spend some time praying together as a group. Thank God for providing all of your needs. Pray that He would awaken you to an eternal perspective to seek Him and His Kingdom first. Ask Him to give you eyes to see and ears to hear the ways you can invest your time, talents, and treasure in things that will last for eternity. You can pray in pairs, small groups, or have multiple people pray out loud.