

July 26, 2020
Christ Chapel Of Bandera
Adult Bible Study

Not needed to follow this writing/lesson is a referenced Study Guide. An attempt has been made where anybody with a Bible will find easy reading.

Sunday July 26, 2020. The Gospel Project; Adult Daily Discipleship Guide ESV Volume 8; Number 4; Summer 2020; Session 3; “Jesus Teaches About Treasure”.

Opening Joke:

Why didn't they play cards on the Ark? Because Noah was standing on the deck.

Disclaimer:

I am not seminary trained. Other than being a Christian, I do not claim any special relationship with God. Therefore, feel free to disagree with anything and everything I write/say.

Opening Prayer:

In these times of trouble I pray for our country. May all our leaders seek to please God first. If this still be a Christian country, may voters follow what is actually written in the Bible and not how man has twisted God's word. May Christians truly turn their hearts to God persevering through the obstacles of this world. Amen.

The Lesson:

Questions for thought:

At what age should a person start planning for retirement?

How important is it to plan for retirement?

Should more mature folks be advising young people to plan for retirement?

Is it a sin to plan for the future?

Is it a sin to be rich?

We are told that the U.S. is a rich country. Therefore, is it a sin to live in America?

Is wealth distributed equally in America?

Is wealth distributed equally throughout the world?

Has wealth ever been distributed equally throughout the world?

Should the wealthy sell all they have and give it all to the poor?

Can there be such a thing as a rich man who is right with the Lord?

Please use the Bible translation of your choice to read Luke chapter 12 verses 13-34.

Questions for thought:

In verse 13, the man requesting Jesus to tell his brother to divide the family inheritance with him, whose benefit was he seeking?

The man doing the requesting, was he thinking of earthly or spiritual things?

Is it wrong to seek your own earthly benefit?

Continued questions for thought:

When is it right to seek your own earthly benefit?

In verse 14, why did Jesus answer the requester in verse 13 the way He did?

Does God force anybody to give Him anything?

Is Jesus concerned about earthly things or spiritual things?

Spiritual concerns or worldly concerns; which is more important? Why?

In verse 15 it says: “for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions”.

Questions for thought:

Then, what does life consist of?

In verse 19 Jesus was telling a parable of a man whose earthly future looked bright, and the man was planning his future.

Questions for thought:

Why did Jesus teach in parables?

The man decided that he would never have to work again and that he would announce so to his what?

The King James, New American Standard Bible, and the Revised Standard say “soul”.

The New International Version and the Living Bible say “myself”.

Questions for thought:

Who or what is a soul?

Is there any significant difference between “tell my soul” and “tell myself”?

Our Study Guide on page 76 the paragraph after the Bible quote in the last sentence says: “Our earnings, either spiritual or physical, will never amount to the priceless love that God freely gives us through faith in His Son.”

Questions for thought:

What “priceless love”?

The New American Standard Bible says in the Gospel of John chapter 3 verse 16: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life”.

The New American Standard Bible continues in Romans chapter 5 verse 8: “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us”.

Furthermore in Romans chapter 6 verse 23 it says: “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”.

Question for thought:

Is there anything more important than having the love of God?

Continued questions for thought:

Should Christians show their love for God? How? Worship & obedience?

Our Study Guide on page 77 the first paragraph after the Bible quote, part of the first sentence reads: “We do not have to worry that God is going to forget us; He already cares for us”.

The last sentence of the same paragraph claims: “When we worry about the things of this earth, we betray hearts and minds that are centered not on the eternal provision of our loving Father but on our own efforts, which are entirely secondary”.

Still on page 77 the last complete paragraph the second sentence says: “In fact, all worry does is detract from our lives and our ability to worship our Creator”.

The New International Version of the Bible, in the book of Psalms chapter 37 verse 8 says: “Refrain from anger and turn from wrath, do not fret; it leads only to evil”.

Questions for thought:

So what alternatives to anger, wrath and fretting do we have?

Remember Luke 12:31 & 32; “Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom”.

Question for thought:

Is Luke 12:31 & 32 the prosperity doctrine, obey God and you will have all the earthly things you desire?

Our Study Guide on page 78 the first paragraph after the Bible quote the 2nd & 3rd sentence say: “The eternal provision that God has made for us through the person and work of His Son does not negate our temporal needs but is far more important than our temporal needs. We have a God who cares deeply for the well-being of our mortal bodies, but He does not promise us ease on this earth”.

The New International Version of the Bible says in 2 Timothy chapter 3 verse 12: “In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted”.

Questions for thought:

Is 2 Timothy 3:12 a promise from God?

Is it possible to be persecuted for Christ but not realize it?

If not put to death, how can Christians be persecuted for Christ?

Is the spiritual purpose of persecution to pay for sins?

Who or what has paid or pays for the sins of Christians?

What separates Christians from the rest of the world?

Our Study Guide continues on page 78 the first paragraph following the Bible quote the last sentence: “He (God) does promise to care for our physical needs, but even more so, He promises that our (Christian) eternal well-being will always be secure”.

On the same page in the last complete paragraph the 3rd sentence says: “Therefore, our dearest treasure should be something that nothing can destroy and that no one can take away”.

Questions for thought:

What do Christians treasure that “nothing can destroy and that no one can take away”?

Using the Bible translation of your choice please read Matthew chapter 6 verse 1-4.

Our Study Guide says on page 82 the sentence following the first 2 paragraphs: “ God cares that we give, but more than that, He cares about the heart behind our giving”.

Using the Bible translation of your choice please read Mark chapter 12 verses 41-44.

On Page 82 in the last complete paragraph part of the 2nd sentence says: “God is not concerned with an exact percentage of our wealth so much as He is concerned with the heart behind our giving”.

Isaiah chapter 29 verse 13 indicates God is after hearts, not rules made by man.

The Bible translation the New International Version in Isaiah 29:13 says: “ The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by man”.

Questions for thought:

What does it mean to give your heart to God?

If God has your heart will He have your thoughts, your study, your efforts, your time, your trust, your faith?

Thank you for your consideration of this lesson. Please take God with you into the world.

Joe Huth