

What Are You Really Seeking? Pray As Jesus Taught – Part 1

**Life Church St. Louis January 4, 2026
Lead Pastor Dan Walker, PhD, MDiv**

Introduction

Psalms 62:10 (ESV) If riches increase, set not your heart on them.

Proverbs 4:23 (ESV) Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

Colossians 3:2 (ESV) Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

1. Store Your Treasure in Heaven

Matthew 6:19 (ESV) Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal,

Matthew 6:20 (ESV) but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

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

2. Guard Your Eye's Vision

Matthew 6:22 (ESV) The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,

Matthew 6:23 (ESV) but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

Psalms 119:105 (ESV) Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

3. Choose One True Master

Matthew 6:24 (ESV) No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.

Matthew 6:24b (ESV) You cannot serve God and money.

Joshua 24:15 (ESV) And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

What Are You Really Seeking? Study Guide

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Introduction.

1. As we begin a new year, what do you think people are truly seeking beneath their goals and resolutions?
2. How does this verse challenge the way you respond when resources or opportunities increase in your life (Psalm 62:10)?
3. What does it look like to actively guard your heart in everyday decisions and pressures (Proverbs 4:23)?
4. How can setting your mind on things above reshape the way you think about daily responsibilities and worries (Colossians 3:2)?

1. Store Your Treasure in Heaven

1. What kinds of earthly treasures tend to promise security but ultimately fail to last (Matthew 6:19)?
2. How does Jesus' description of heavenly treasure redefine what is truly valuable and secure (Matthew 6:20)?
3. In what ways have you seen your heart follow what you invest in most deeply (Matthew 6:21)?
4. What changes might God be inviting you to make in how you use your time, talents, or resources this year?
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2. Guard Your Eye's Vision

1. How does Jesus' teaching help you understand the connection between what you focus on and the health of your inner life (Matthew 6:22)?
2. What warning does Jesus give about allowing your vision to be shaped by darkness rather than light (Matthew 6:23)?
3. How does God's Word function as a guiding light when you are unsure which direction to take (Psalm 119:105)?
4. What intentional steps can you take to redirect your vision toward things that bring spiritual clarity and light?

3. Choose One True Master

1. Why does Jesus say it is impossible to truly serve two masters at the same time (Matthew 6:24)?
2. How does Jesus' statement about God and money reveal what often competes for our trust and loyalty (Matthew 6:24)?
3. What does Joshua's declaration teach us about the necessity of making a clear and decisive commitment (Joshua 24:15)?
4. What areas of your life may need to be more fully surrendered to God's lordship today?

Conclusion.

1. Looking back over the message, where do you sense God prompting you to realign your treasure, vision, or allegiance?
2. What practical step can you take this week to seek God more fully and trust Him as your one true Master?