

**FALL, 2023 | SERMON ON THE MOUNT**  
**Life Group WORKSHEET**  
**Week 6 - “Distinctive Pursuit” | MATTHEW 6:19-34**

**INTRODUCTION**

In this passage, we see a continuation from the previous. In Matthew 6:1-18, we learn about the importance of examining our motives. It's possible to appear as a model Christian in our actions, but inwardly have the wrong reasons for doing so. For instance, we may seek attention and praise from others for our faith, generosity, or ability to carry out spiritual disciplines.

Now, in verses 19-34, we begin to see how our inward motive affects our day-to-day, practical living. We often assume that if we develop good disciplines, it will lead us to healthier places. Jesus's teaching suggests that our line of thinking may be correct unless our motive is off base. If we are not completely committed to Christ, we obscure what it means to live as a Christian. We become okay with pursuing Jesus and whatever distraction catches our eye.

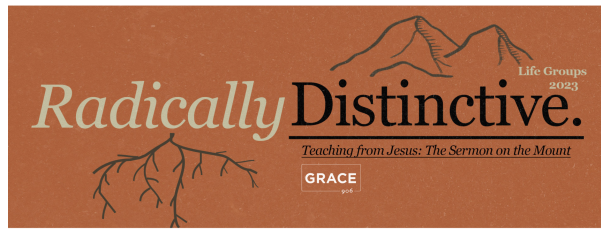
Christ's message in this passage is that we should not separate our natural lives from our spiritual journey with Him. He wants us to understand that He is always present with us, and that our identity as God's children, who are in a loving relationship with Him, should be reflected in all aspects of our lives. Therefore, our practical, daily life should be understood and overcome by our spiritual walk with the Lord. We keep our gaze on the Lord in every moment and area of life.

**INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS**

- A. How would you explain to someone else that they could have a personal relationship with the Lord?
  
- B. In what ways have you found yourself distracted spiritually?

**DISCUSSION BODY**

*(Before meeting, please read through Matthew 5:1 - 7:29.)*



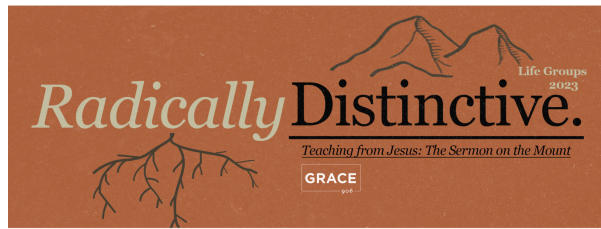
Read Matthew 6:19-24

**19** “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust<sup>[a]</sup> destroy and where thieves break in and steal, **20** but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. **21** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. **22** “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, **23** 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! **24** “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. You cannot serve God and money.<sup>[b]</sup>

1. In verses 19 & 20, there are two different treasures listed. What’s the difference in durability between the two?
2. What do you think is meant by the phrase, “Where your treasure is, there your heart may be also?”
3. Practically speaking, how can you store up treasures in Heaven?
4. In Jewish literature, the “eye” is similar to the heart. Is there anything in your life that is preventing you from seeing clearly? How would God have you deal with that today?
5. Is Jesus suggesting that you should not steward your temporal assets?

Read Matthew 6:25-34

**25** “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **27** And which of you by



being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?<sup>[a]</sup> **28** And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, **29** yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. **30** But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? **31** Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' **32** For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. **33** But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. **34** "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

6. A. What have been the most significant stressors and anxieties in your life?
  - B. Is anxiety a faith issue?
7. How do we battle anxiety?
8. How does Jesus distinguish between being thoughtful and thinking ahead versus being overwhelmed by anxious thoughts?
9. Are any of us distracted tonight by a burden related to physical needs? How does Jesus speak into our honest questions about His provision?
10. What does it mean to you to "Seek first the Kingdom of God?"

## **CONCLUSION**

11. How has this passage challenged your priorities?