

## Lesson 6: Materialism

### I. Introduction

In Matthew 19:16-22, we encounter a familiar interaction between Jesus and a man who had great wealth. Scripture tells it this way, **“And behold, a man came up to [Jesus], saying, ‘Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?’ And he said to him, ‘Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.’ He said to him, ‘Which ones?’ And Jesus said, ‘You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ The young man said to him, ‘All these I have kept. What do I still lack?’ Jesus said to him, ‘If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.’ When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.”**

One of the most striking truths we see in this passage is that our possessions are not off-limits when it comes to following Jesus. The call to discipleship extends beyond our hearts and lips and reaches into our wallets, our homes, and everything we "own." For this man, wealth was not just an obstacle, it was the dividing line between heaven and hell. His possessions had such a grip on him that even eternal life couldn't pry them loose. That should sober us. It should cause each of us to ask: *Do I think about my wealth this way? When I follow Jesus, do I follow Him with all that I own, or do I hold something back?*

Jesus' words in Luke 14:33 ring loudly here, **“So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.”** One of the greatest challenges in the Christian life is discerning whether our money, our possessions, and our comforts have quietly become idols. And often, the change is so gradual that we hardly notice it. We still attend church. We still profess Christ. We may even feel pangs of guilt after a lavish purchase. But real danger doesn't always sound alarms. It creeps. It numbs. And eventually, what we once called a "want" begins to feel like a "need." Little by little, we shift our dependence from God to things, seeking security, joy, and identity from material possessions rather than from the One who gives them.

Paul warns of this slow drift in 1 Timothy 6:9, **“But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.”** So how should we approach this problem? The answer isn't to live passively, hoping that we'll somehow stumble into faithfulness. No, Scripture calls us to something far more active, **“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...”** Romans 12:2

We must be intentionally transformed, rewiring how we think about material things according to God's truth, not the world's values. In this lesson, we'll help by:

- Understanding the *right way* to view material things;
- Exposing the *wrong way*, the heart of materialism;
- Prescribing a *remedy* to fight against it.

### II. Identifying Materialism

When we look up "materialism" in a dictionary, it's defined simply as, *“A doctrine where the highest values or objectives lie in material well-being and the furtherance of material progress.”* In plain

language, materialism is a value system that says buying, spending, and accumulating are what really matter in life. It preaches that comfort, appearance, and possessions are the true markers of success. Most of us, reading that definition, would nod in agreement: *“Of course materialism is wrong!”* But if we honestly examine our own hearts and habits, things start to get uncomfortable. The truth is, we like to buy things, because things feel good.

- New clothes bring admiration.
- New tech brings convenience.
- New furniture brings a sense of status.
- New toys for our kids make us feel like good parents.

These purchases offer temporary happiness, a fleeting sense of control, pleasure, or admiration. And those feelings can be incredibly powerful. They are subtle. They are addictive. And without realizing it, we begin to entrust ourselves to these things, leaning on them for security, identity, and satisfaction. But trusting in material things is a role reserved for God alone. Psalm 20:7 reminds us, **“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.”** We profess that materialism is wrong with our mouths, but functionally, in our day-to-day decisions, our theology often leaks. Instead of trusting God, we trust in our bank accounts, our possessions, or our ability to purchase more. Rather than confronting this drift head-on, we often rationalize it:

- "It's an investment."
- "It's for my kids."
- "It keeps us current with everyone else."

And it's not only spenders who are vulnerable. Misers (those who hoard and save obsessively) are just as susceptible. Spenders trust in what they buy, Misers trust in what they save. But both are guilty of the same heart posture: trusting the material world for security and happiness instead of trusting Christ. Jesus offers a powerful warning in Luke 12:15, **“Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”**

Money, in and of itself, isn't evil. 1 Timothy 6:10 says, **“the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils.”** Money is simply a tool: a dangerous tool, like dynamite. Used rightly, it can build churches, feed the hungry, support missions, and bless communities. Used wrongly, it can destroy marriages, wreck souls, and drive us far from God. So before we can fight materialism, we must first stop and ask: *“How do I rightly use the material things God has entrusted to me?”*

#### **A. Rightly Enjoying Material Things**

How can we know if we're rightly using and enjoying material things? There are some key indicators that show whether our hearts are positioned properly:

- We are willing to part with them easily if needed.
- We don't use them sinfully.
- We aren't unnecessarily dependent on them.
- We are genuinely thankful for them.
- We don't regret our use of them later.

Paul addresses this beautifully in 1 Timothy 4:1-5, where he writes, **“Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons...who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to**

**be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer.**” When Paul penned these words to Timothy, there were false teachers infiltrating the church at Ephesus. They taught that true spirituality meant denying or abstaining from material things, that the more you stripped away earthly enjoyments, the closer you would get to God. But Paul doesn’t merely call this a mistake. He calls it demonic. That’s strong language. Why? Because it fundamentally twists the goodness of God’s creation and the generosity of His heart. In contrast, Paul gives us three foundational principles for how to rightly enjoy material things:

### **1. Right Understanding: Believe What God Says About Material Things**

The first step to rightly enjoying material things is having a right theology of creation. God created all things good by His Word. Genesis 1 repeats the refrain again and again, **“And God saw that it was good.”** (Genesis 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25) The problem isn’t with the created world, it’s with sinful hearts that misuse it. If we believe God’s Word, we’ll understand that material things are good gifts, not gods to be worshiped, nor traps to be feared.

But knowing this truth is not automatic. It must be received by faith. Hebrews 11:6 reminds us, **“Without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”** Faith sees material blessings not as substitutes for God but as signposts pointing to His generosity. God’s Word doesn’t just teach that things are good, it teaches how to use them rightly. Consider Proverbs 25:16, **“If you have found honey, eat only enough for you, lest you have your fill of it and vomit it.”** God isn’t forbidding honey. He’s forbidding excess. Enjoy the gift, but enjoy it with wisdom and restraint. In short: Believe that what God says about material things is true and trust His wisdom for how to use them.

### **2. Right Reception: Receive With Thanksgiving**

Paul stresses that the proper response to material blessings is thanksgiving. When we are thankful:

- We recognize that everything we have is a gift.
- We remember that we are stewards, not owners.
- We acknowledge that God, not stuff, is our true Provider.

Thanksgiving reminds us that entitlement has no place in a Christian’s heart. James 1:17 says, **“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”** Gratitude keeps our eyes lifted above the gifts, to the Giver Himself. And it guards us from foolish pride. Boasting in your possessions is as silly as a man arriving at his high school reunion in a rented Lamborghini and pretending he owns it. It’s all borrowed. Everything we have is on loan from the King of kings.

### **3. Right Devotion: Prayerful Dependence**

Third, rightly enjoying material things must involve prayer. Through prayer:

- We acknowledge God’s kindness in providing for us.
- We confess our dependence on Him for every good thing.
- We ask God to help us use our possessions rightly, not selfishly.

James warns us in James 4:2-3, **“You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.”** Prayer corrects our hearts. It humbles us. It steers us away from using blessings for selfish purposes and reorients us toward using them for God’s glory. When we receive material things with thanksgiving and prayer, they become holy (set apart) for God’s purposes, not just worldly indulgences.

#### **4. Right Hope: Set Your Hope Fully on God**

Even as we rightly enjoy material things, there’s one more critical step: We must not set our hope on them. Paul writes later in 1 Timothy 6:17, **“As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.”** Notice that God richly provides us with everything to enjoy. God is not stingy. He loves to bless His children. But those blessings are meant to point us to Him, not replace Him. Material things are unreliable:

- Markets crash.
- Cars break down.
- Homes lose value.
- Jobs disappear.

Proverbs 23:5 reminds us, **“When your eyes light on it, it is gone, for suddenly it sprouts wings, flying like an eagle toward heaven.”** But God?

- He never crashes.
- He never depreciates.
- He never forsakes.

Hebrews 13:5 tells us, **“Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’”** If we set our hope on possessions, we will always be restless and fearful. But if we set our hope on God, we will be free to enjoy His gifts without worshipping them. In a fallen world, we often get this backwards. We trust in the gifts instead of the Giver. We find our joy in what we have rather than in the One who gave it.

#### **B. Idolizing Material Things**

Materialism at its core is placing the wrong value on money and possessions. It’s not that material things are bad in and of themselves. In fact, vibrant colors, delicious food, beautiful music, sweet aromas, and even sensual pleasures are all gifts from the hand of a generous Creator. They are meant to point us upward, to awaken joy, gratitude, and wonder at the goodness of God.

Imagine Adam and Eve walking through the Garden of Eden, beholding a fiery sunset splashed across the sky or breathing in the scent of a fresh, blooming flower. Every gift must have stirred their hearts to spontaneous worship, **“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.”** (Psalm 19:1)

But then sin entered the picture. Romans 1:21-23 describes it bluntly, **“For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened... and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.”** In short, the gifts became the goal. Instead of treasuring the Giver, mankind rejected Him and clung to His gifts.

- We bowed to beautiful vacations.
- We idolized job titles that gave us power and status.
- We trusted in televisions, real estate, retirement portfolios.

And this is the very definition of idolatry: placing trust, love, or hope in something other than God. Imagine this everyday example: You're talking with a friend who shares honestly, *"My job demands so much. I'm stretched thin. I barely have time for my family, for church, for reading God's Word."* What do you say? There's a balance to be had. Work, in itself, is a gift and a calling. Colossians 3:23 says, **"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."** It's good to provide for your family (1 Timothy 5:8), and to work diligently. Yet, at the same time, when work consistently crowds out our worship, our family, and our service to the body of Christ, it may have crossed the line from faithfulness to idolatry.

Sometimes idolatry hides under socially acceptable labels like *"perfectionism," "ambition,"* or *"success."* This is why self-examination is vital. 2 Corinthians 13:5 urges us, **"Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves."** To help with that, here are five questions that can expose materialism in our hearts:

### 1. Does owning or desiring "X" distract you from what God has called you to do?

Pursuing a promotion isn't wrong, it might enable greater generosity (1 Timothy 6:18) or better provision for your family (1 Timothy 5:8). But if obsession with career advancement pulls your heart away from:

- Loving your spouse well (Ephesians 5:25),
- Nurturing your children spiritually (Ephesians 6:4),
- Serving your neighbor with compassion (Luke 10:37),

then you may be turning a good gift into a false god.

Proverbs 28:6 warns, **"Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity than a rich man who is crooked in his ways."** It's better to be poor and faithful than rich and compromised.

### 2. What do you delight in? Are you more excited about things than about God?

It's not wrong to enjoy good food, a thrilling game, or new clothes, but created things were meant to be conduits, not containers, of our joy. They should carry our affections toward God, not terminate them on themselves. The Psalmist captures the true heart posture in Psalm 73:25-26, **"Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."** Can you say, like the psalmist, *"There is nothing on earth I desire besides You"*? The things we get most excited about reveal what we truly worship.

### 3. How do you react when something is taken away?

Loss exposes what we love most. When a possession is taken, whether through theft, disaster, financial downturn, or just the passage of time, how does your heart respond? The rich young man in Matthew 19 walked away from Jesus sorrowful, because he was unwilling to part with his wealth to gain eternal life. What is the thing you would have the hardest time letting go of? And what would that struggle reveal about where your hope really lies? Job, in his moment of greatest loss, gave the model response, **"The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."** (Job 1:21)

#### 4. How do you feel toward others who have more than you?

Coveting and comparison are telltale signs of materialism. We either look up in envy: “*If I just had what they have, I’d be happy.*” Or we look down in judgment: “*At least I’m not wasting money like them.*” Both attitudes reveal misplaced trust. Jesus warned urgently in Luke 12:14-15, “**Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.**” Marketers tap into this covetous impulse constantly. “Don’t be left behind!” the ad says. “Upgrade now!” But Christ reminds us: life is not found in possessions. Life is found in Him.

#### 5. How do you react when you feel insecure?

Fear can fuel materialism just as much as greed.

- Fear of future hardship can drive obsessive saving.
- Fear of judgment can drive flashy purchases.
- Fear of obscurity can drive career overwork.

Proverbs 18:10-11 offers a vivid contrast, “**The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe. A rich man’s wealth is his strong city, and like a high wall in his imagination.**” Security built on wealth is an illusion, it’s a wall only in our imagination. True security is found in running to the Lord, our fortress and refuge. Proverbs 11:4 also reminds us, “**Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.**” Money will fail us in the end. Christ never will.

Materialism is subtle. It often masquerades as success, prudence, or even responsibility. But through careful, honest examination, and by bringing our hearts continually back to Christ, we can guard ourselves against idolizing the gifts, and instead, worship the Giver.

Questions or Comments?

### III. Fighting Materialism

We’ve taken time to identify materialism in our lives. But now we must ask the harder question: *What do we do about it? How do we fight back?* Materialism won’t simply drift away on its own. It must be actively resisted by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2) and the reshaping of our affections. Let’s walk through eight practical ways to wage this fight:

#### 1. Treasure the Excellence and Beauty of God

If we want to loosen our grip on money and possessions, we need something greater and more desirable to grip. The human heart was made to worship. If we don’t worship God, we *will* worship something else. Jesus reminds us in Matthew 6:21, “**For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**” We often think of this verse as a warning against greed, and it is. But it’s also an invitation. If we work to treasure God above all, our hearts will naturally follow Him. The God of Scripture is infinitely worthy of all our affection, all our trust, and all our delight. When we take our eyes off Him, our hearts scramble to find new idols. But when we fill our gaze with His beauty, lesser loves lose their grip. Here are some ways you can practically stir up your love for God:

- Scripture Reading and Meditation: Dive deeply into passages like Isaiah 53, Romans 5, Ephesians 1, and Psalm 22, which magnify God's love and greatness.
- Evangelizing: Sharing the gospel reminds you how precious Christ is, and how fleeting worldly treasures are.
- Read a Good Book About God: Works like *Knowing God* (J.I. Packer), *The Holiness of God* (R.C. Sproul), or *The Pleasures of God* (John Piper) can expand your awe and worship.
- Recall God's Faithfulness: Reflect on specific ways God has provided for, protected, and matured you.
- Pray: Ask the Spirit to rekindle your heart's first love (Revelation 2:4–5).

Psalm 27:4 captures this focus beautifully, **“One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.”**

## 2. Remind Yourself of the Danger of Materialism

Materialism isn't a harmless indulgence. It's spiritually deadly. Paul warns in 1 Timothy 6:9, **“But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.”** Chasing after wealth isn't just a different life choice, it's a path that leads many into destruction. It competes with Christ for lordship over your heart. Materialism promises security, status, happiness, but it's a deceitful trap. Jesus says in Mark 4:19, **“But the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.”** Thomas Brooks once wisely said: *“A man may have enough of the world in his heart to sink him, but he can never have enough to satisfy him.”* Keep the dangers of materialism vivid in your mind.

## 3. Confess Materialism as Sin

Sometimes we trivialize materialism as if it's just a little personality quirk, *“Oh, I splurged on a fancy watch...oops!”* But Scripture treats it with deadly seriousness. Materialism is idolatry. Colossians 3:5 is clear, **“Put to death therefore what is earthly in you... covetousness, which is idolatry.”** When we elevate stuff above the Savior, we are committing the very sin that brought judgment against entire nations (Habakkuk 1:16). Confession should not just skim the surface (“I probably spent too much”). It should probe the roots:

- *Am I buying to comfort my fears?*
- *Am I clinging to stuff to feel secure?*
- *Am I seeking status or identity in possessions?*

Lamentations 3:40 urges us, **“Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord!”** Confess materialism honestly. Repent deeply. God is ready to forgive and renew.

## 4. Fight for Faith to Rest in God

At its heart, fighting materialism is a fight for faith, faith that trusts God's promises more than wealth's illusions. When you're fearful, instead of hoarding possessions, cling to God's presence. Hebrews 13:5 offers this comfort, **“Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’”** When you're greedy, instead of stacking wealth, invest yourself in loving God and others. Reframe your heart's goals: not "How much can I gain?" but "How much can I give?" Sometimes fighting for faith means taking practical steps too:

- Selling possessions that tempt you to pride or security.
- Redirecting spending toward generosity and kingdom work.
- Setting up accountability with another believer regarding major purchases.

Luke 12:33-34 exhorts us, **“Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail...”** In all of this, remember: The fight against materialism is not about guilt. It's about freedom. It's about loving a better treasure, trusting a better Savior, and living for a better Kingdom.

## 5. Think About Heaven

If we want to fight materialism effectively, we must lift our eyes beyond this world. Keeping eternity in perspective makes the things of this life feel far smaller and far less necessary. Jesus warns us with a sobering parable in [Luke 12:16-21](#) about a rich man who, seeing his wealth multiply, decided to build bigger barns to store it all, saying to himself, **“Relax, eat, drink, be merry.”** But God said to him, **“Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?”** (Luke 12:20) The tragedy wasn't that the man was successful, it was that he was rich in things but poor toward God. When Jesus says in Revelation 22:12, **“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done,”** He's reminding us that our faithfulness in stewarding what we've been given matters for eternity.

The early Christians understood this. Hebrews 10:34 commends them, **“For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.”** They knew their true treasure wasn't anything they could lose, it was God Himself. Jim Elliot captured it perfectly: *“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.”* Fix your eyes on heaven, and you will find the grip of materialism loosening day by day.

## 6. Give Generously

If hoarding tightens materialism's hold, giving is the open hand that breaks it. Paul exhorts the rich in 1 Timothy 6:17–19, **“As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God... They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves...”** Generous giving is not just a nice thing Christians do, it's a spiritual weapon. When you give, you:

- Break greed's stranglehold.
- Remember that what you have is not yours.
- Practice love instead of selfishness.

Hebrews 13:16 echoes this, **“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”** If you want a tangible way to grow in your faith, start giving generously.

- Give to your local church.
- Support missions.
- Help a brother or sister in need.
- Give without expecting applause.

As Jesus said, **“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”** (Acts 20:35)

## 7. Create a Budget

We touched on this earlier in our lesson on spending, but it's worth emphasizing again: A budget is a spiritual tool, not just a financial one. Proverbs 27:23–24 reminds us, “**Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds, for riches do not last forever.**”

A budget helps you:

- Know where your money is going.
- Plan strategically for generosity and stewardship.
- Restrain impulsive spending.
- Trust God's provision instead of living in vague financial fear.

Without a plan, we drift. And the current of materialism is strong. With a budget, we can steward God's gifts with wisdom, thoughtfulness, and prayerfulness.

## 8. Talk With Others About It

Finally, like every other part of our discipleship, we fight materialism together. We were never meant to walk alone. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 says, “**Two are better than one... For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow.**” If you've been attending these stewardship classes, I hope you've already considered opening up to another believer about your finances. If not, here's a simple path forward:

- Start with honest self-assessment. Use the questions we've discussed: Where does your money go? What purchases do you regret? What fears drive your financial habits?
- Share with a trusted Christian friend. Open your heart. Invite accountability. Prepare a list of hard but necessary questions like:
  - ❖ What spending decisions do you most regret?
  - ❖ Where are you tempted to excess?
  - ❖ How much debt do you carry? How are you attacking it?
  - ❖ How much are you saving? Why?
  - ❖ How much do you give? Could you give more?
- Invite their feedback with humility. Proverbs 12:1 says, “**Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.**” It's foolish to ignore correction, but wise to embrace it.
- Make a concrete plan. Whether it's creating your first budget, reworking a flawed one, or setting new giving goals, don't just talk. Act.

## IV. Conclusion

As we fight materialism and seek to enjoy God's gifts rightly, our hearts begin to change. And when they do, we will start to value material things differently:

- Money becomes a tool to do good, not a treasure to hoard.
- We see ourselves as stewards, accountable to the Lord for every dollar.
- Our hands open in generosity, rather than clenching tightly in selfishness.
- Joy rises from trusting God fully, not sadness from trusting wealth falsely.

Ask yourself today: *Is this the experience of my heart? Or is something still gripping me?* If not, what needs to change? What step of repentance, gratitude, generosity, or faith needs to happen next?

Father in Heaven,

We come before You today, humbled and grateful. Thank You for the many good gifts You pour into our lives, gifts that reflect Your kindness, Your wisdom, and Your abundant care. But Lord, we confess that so often we have loved the gifts more than we have loved You. We have trusted in possessions for security, chased after wealth for identity, and delighted in comforts more than in Your presence.

Forgive us, Lord, for hearts that wander. Forgive us for the subtle ways materialism creeps in and steals our affections. Forgive us for being slow to see it, and even slower to fight it. Father, we ask that You would renew our minds with Your truth. Teach us to see our money, our possessions, and our opportunities not as ends in themselves, but as tools to love You and love others. Help us to treasure Christ above all, so much so that the things of earth grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

Guard us, Lord, from the deceitfulness of riches. Help us to hold everything we have with open hands. Help us to be generous, to be faithful, to be content. Give us hearts that long for heaven, where the true treasure awaits us, unfading, undefiled, and kept by You. Strengthen our faith, even when the world tempts us to chase after more. Teach us to walk in wisdom, to steward what You have entrusted to us with joy, and to live lives rich toward You. May our lives (our spending, our saving, our giving) be living testimonies that Jesus is our true treasure, our sure hope, and our everlasting joy.

We pray this in Jesus name, Amen.