

CITYWEST CHURCH

10.11.2024 -10 AM

LEGACY #2 - LEGACY LIVING.

After that generation died, another generation grew up who did not acknowledge the LORD or remember the mighty things he had done for Israel.

Judges 2:10 (NLT)

Why legacy>?

This is why, we will all leave a legacy. In our own strength, it will be tainted and leave bad traits but a legacy of God in our lives can change the course of generations.

Those of you who are the first Christians in your family will know, that God is not just changing your life but it will impact your children if you keep living for JESUS.

The scary thing is that we can walk in a Godly legacy and lose it by being distracted by the lure of the world. God made the world, it is beautiful, but it also is dominated and impacted by sin. We must not allow the temporary to distract us from the eternal.

We also have to be aware that in the temporary seasons of life, God can do an eternal work.

With that said let's look at some scriptures for today:

A good *man* leaves an inheritance to his children's children, But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

Proverbs 13:22 (NKJV)

"No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.

25 "That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. ***Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing?*** **26** Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? **27** Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

Matt 6:25-27 (NLT)

Ok, here we go into week 2 of our series on leaving a legacy.

Most of us have heard the proverb we just read. Many have made it their life goal to leave an inheritance for their children's children. I know that is a goal of Stef and I's.

But today when it comes to talking about Legacy, we see that it is more than leaving behind money for this life.

That can be part of it but a true inheritance isn't just money, but the wisdom and trust in the Lord to do good with it not just our time on earth but for it to have an eternal impact.

Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount lays out options to his listeners. Jesus often said in his teachings you have heard it said, but I say to you... and goes into one of his teachings.

In the sermon on the mount, he gives the option of 2 treasures, 2 visions, and ultimately two masters.

Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount teaches us that we should choose heavenly treasure, focused vision, and God as our master.

With that said let's dive into this a little deeper today into some of the things that we really need to focus on today in order to leave not just financial security but a legacy that continues into eternity.

1. YOU CAN'T SERVE TWO MASTERS.

“No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.

Matt 6:24 (NLT)

To leave a legacy requires not hedging your bets but going all in on God being your master and knowing he has the best way for you to live your life.

The contrast of God and Mammon

<i>God says</i>	<i>Mammon Says</i>
<i>You can trust me with your heart</i>	<i>Give it to me</i>
<i>Be content with what you have</i>	<i>Grasp and claw for every little bit</i>
<i>Never lie, be honest and just in all dealings</i>	<i>Cheat your own father for a little extra</i>
<i>Be anxious for nothing</i>	<i>Be anxious about everything</i>
<i>Keep the Sabbath</i>	<i>Work all day every day, hustle.</i>

The challenge for us is that possessions are not evil in and of themselves, but those who want a to leave more than an inheritance know that we can own things but we must be careful never to let our possessions own us.

Live with an open hand.

Kosuke Koyama

“Man is supposed to live in a house. But what if the house starts to live in a man?”

To leave a legacy beyond this life you have to have your heart set on God who is beyond this life, but also in it.

2. MORE THAN FOOD AND CLOTHES

“That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. ***Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing?***”

Matt 6:25 (NLT)

Worry

- *Gives small things a big shadow*
- *Is the interest we pay on tomorrow's troubles*
- *Is the indication that God can't look after us.*
- *Puts question marks where God has put full stops*
- *If welcomed as a guest quickly becomes the master*
- *Like a rickety chair, gives you something to do but doesn't go anywhere.*

Jesus here calls us not to worry about earthly things, like food and drink and clothes to wear.

He challenges us here that food drink and clothes, material things are not where the bulk of our concern should be.

Life is more than food.

You need food, we love food, but life is so much more than food. Food is not our saviour, Christ is. We use meals to gather but life is so much more than the food you eat, not the company you keep.

The body is more than clothing.

Clothing matters, the dress code for our church is that you wear something. That's it.

But your body is so much more than what you wear. We don't or shouldn't be judging people's value based on the clothes they wear. (or music they listen to, I love country music)

But this challenge here is that the body is worth more than clothes, the things we can see if a powerful truth.

The truth is when our bodies are present in situations there is so much more going on that we can see.

The gift of our presence and attention to our loved ones and families is a powerful picture of how our bodies are so much more than just what we wear.

The opposite is so hard to handle sometimes when people are bodily present but away in their phones or devices.

Our body is the expression of what God is doing in our lives.

Jesus who delivers the sermon on the mount is God in bodily form, a gift that blesses all of humanity.

Felicia Wu Song in the best book I've read on presence in the modern age says

“In a society that values productivity, we sometimes forget that presence isn’t always about doing. It can be about simply being—with God, with others, and with ourselves.”

Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

Matt 6:27 (NLT)

You can't add a moment to your own life with worry, there is no way you can leave a legacy for the next generation.

Worrying about the temporal gets us distracted and off track from the life God has for us which will leave a good legacy for future generations.

Concern for the cause of Christ and instilling that in our own hearts and into the next generation will leave no time for worry, only time for sharing the most important things with those around us.

Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power.

Psalms 145:4 (NLT)

CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS.

- 1. HOW DO YOU COMBAT WORRY?**
- 2. HOW CAN YOU KEEP FOCUSED ON GOD AND HIS ETERNAL PLAN IN THE PRESSURES OF EVERYDAY LIFE.**
- 3. DISCUSS WHAT THE GIFT OF PRESENCE MEANS TO YOU AND HOW IT CAN BE SUCH A BLESSING.**

