



August 3, 2025
Brandon Pasion
Matthew 6:19-24

Introduction

This week's message explores our relationship with money, possessions, and generosity through the lens of Jesus' Kingdom teachings. Brandon Pasion challenges us to examine whether we operate from a scarcity mindset or an abundance mindset, and how our approach to treasure reveals the condition of our hearts.

Key Texts: Matthew 6:19-24; Matthew 13:44-46

Icebreaker:

Share about a time you found something valuable that you had lost or forgotten about. How did it feel to discover it? What made it so valuable to you?

Discussion Questions

1. Brandon mentioned that "wanting stuff is human" and shared the Gold Rush analogy. What are some modern-day "gold rushes" you see people chasing after? How do you see the desire for material things playing out in the Bay Area culture?
2. **Read Matthew 6:19-21 together as a group.** Brandon noted that in the Bay Area, we know better than to store valuables in places like our car. What are some practical ways we can "store treasures in heaven"? What does this look like in daily life?
3. Brandon shared his honest reaction: "I cringe thinking that I might have dismissed Jesus" because of His apparent lack of material possessions. How does our culture's emphasis on success and wealth sometimes conflict with Jesus' way of living? When have you experienced this tension?

4. Compare the two mindsets from the sermon:

- a. **Scarcity says:** "I have to compete to stay ahead. Failure defines me. There's no room for rest—only hustle. I'll never be enough. What I see is all there is."
- b. **Abundance believes:** "Failure is feedback, not final. Rest is holy, not lazy. I am enough, and I have enough. God sees beyond what I can see."

Which mindset resonates more with how you typically think? What life experiences have shaped your perspective?

5. Brandon shared a vulnerable story about his parents trusting God to provide, but how it left him with a scarcity mindset about money. How have your family's financial attitudes or experiences shaped your relationship with money and generosity?
6. **Read Matthew 6:24 together.** Brandon told the story about trying to serve two masters by playing both a casino gig and a Christian camp. Where do you see this tension between serving God and money showing up in your own life? What does it look like to "seek first the Kingdom of God" in practical terms?
7. Brandon offered four practical steps: (1) Reject shame and isolation, (2) Move towards simplicity, (3) Create a generosity habit, and (4) Practice gratitude. Which of these feels most challenging for you right now? Which one could you take a concrete step toward this week?
8. **Read Matthew 13:44-46 together.** These parables describe people who joyfully gave up everything for something of greater value. What would it look like for you to live as if the Kingdom of Heaven truly is the most valuable treasure? What might you need to "sell" or let go of?

Key Takeaways

- Jesus wants our hearts, not just our wallets
- We can choose between scarcity mindset and abundance mindset
- Generosity reflects who we are on the inside, not just what we give
- True treasure is found in the Kingdom of Heaven
- Gratitude and envy cannot coexist
- We cannot serve both God and money—we must choose