



AMEN!

*The Idols we never knew we had – Materialism*

Jason Yopp, Good Shepherd Lutheran

## Professional

- ~18-year Dow veteran
- Human Resources and Talent Acquisition Leader



## Personal

- Wife, Carrie
- Daughter, Ava

- Elder, Good Shepherd Lutheran Midland
- Movement is medicine.
- I love the outdoors.

**Fun Fact:** I have rapped live at several events.

*I am driven by faith and family.*

**Favorite Quotes:** “Growth and comfort cannot coexist.” and “Focus on the journey, not the destination.”

# What does **materialism** mean to you?

- Menti/sticky note poll
  - [www.menti.com](http://www.menti.com)
  - Code **3247 3923**
- Questions
  - ✓ What word(s) do you associate with materialism?
  - ✓ What is one possession you could not live without?



AMEN!

# Materialism defined

- A tendency to consider material **possessions** and physical **comfort** as more important than **spiritual** values.

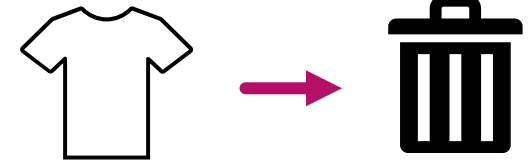
Source: Oxford dictionary

# Knowledge check!



How many items does the average household in North America have?

What **percentage** of families with two car garages can **not** park **both** vehicles in the garage?



How many pounds of clothing does the average American throw away per year?

*How much money in North America is spent per year on **non-essential** items?*

## MATERIAL GIRL - MADONNA

Some boys kiss me, some boys hug me  
I think they're okay  
If they don't give me proper credit  
I just walk away

They can beg and they can plead  
But they can't see the light (that's right)  
'Cause the boy with the cold hard cash  
Is always Mister Right

'Cause we are living in a material world  
And I am a material girl  
You know that we are living in a material world  
And I am a material girl

Some boys romance, some boys slow dance  
That's all right with me  
If they can't raise my interest  
Then I have to let them be

Some boys try, and some boys lie  
But I don't let them play (no way)  
Only boys that save their pennies  
Make my rainy day

'Cause we are living in a material world  
And I am a material girl  
You know that we are living in a material world  
And I am a material girl

Living in a material world  
And I am a material girl  
You know that we are living in a material world  
And I am a material girl



## WHAT IS THE WORLD TO ME – CW HYMN

What is the world to me  
With all its vaunted pleasure  
When Thou, and Thou alone,  
Lord Jesus, art my Treasure!  
Thou only, dearest Lord,  
My soul's Delight shalt be;  
Thou art my Peace, my Rest,-  
What is the world to me!

The world seeks after wealth  
And all that Mammon offers,  
Yet never is content  
Though gold should fill its coffers.  
I have a higher good,  
Content with it I'll be:  
My Jesus is my Wealth,-  
What is the world to me!

The world is like a cloud  
And like a vapor fleeting,  
A shadow that declines,  
Swift to its end retreating.  
My Jesus doth abide,  
Though all things fade and flee;  
My everlasting Rock,-  
What is the world to me!

What is the world to me!  
My Jesus is my Treasure,  
My Life, my Health, my Wealth,  
My Friend, my Love, my Pleasure,  
My Joy, my Crown, my All,  
My Bliss eternally.  
Once more, then, I declare:  
What is the world to me!



ALMIGHTY



# 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

- ▶ But godliness with **contentment** is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> **For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.** Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
- ▶ <sup>17</sup> **Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.** <sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.



# Luke 12:13-21

## ▶ The Parable of the Rich Fool

- ▶ <sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”
- ▶ <sup>14</sup> Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” <sup>15</sup> Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”
- ▶ <sup>16</sup> And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. <sup>17</sup> He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’
- ▶ <sup>18</sup> “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. <sup>19</sup> And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’
- ▶ <sup>20</sup> **“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’**
- ▶ <sup>21</sup> **“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”**

# Luke 16:1-15

## ▶ The Parable of the Shrewd Manager

- ▶ **16** Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup> So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’
- ▶ <sup>3</sup> “The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— <sup>4</sup> I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’
- ▶ <sup>5</sup> “So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’
- ▶ <sup>6</sup> “‘Nine hundred gallons<sup>[a]</sup> of olive oil,’ he replied.
- ▶ “The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’
- ▶ <sup>7</sup> “Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’
- ▶ “‘A thousand bushels<sup>[b]</sup> of wheat,’ he replied.
- ▶ “He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’
- ▶ <sup>8</sup> “The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. <sup>9</sup> I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.
- ▶ <sup>10</sup> “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. <sup>11</sup> So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?
- ▶ <sup>13</sup> **“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”**
- ▶ <sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God’s sight.”

# Matthew 6:19-21, 24

## Treasures in Heaven

- ▶ <sup>19</sup>“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup>But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- ▶ **“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.**

# What does this mean for us?

- Are material blessings bad? When do they become an issue?
- Whose **mindset** and **attitude** ought we to copy?
- Looking at our verses, did Jesus **ever** say to anyone that the answer to their problems was **more mammon**?
  - What were some examples you saw?

Think back to our opening keynote speakers today.

- **Guilt** → **Behavior** change & turns people to **Christ. Baptism** – Released us from our guilt. Comfort for us as Christians that we are **sinners saved**.
  - ❖ Temptations – Jesus faced them all and lived **PERFECTLY** so that we may have hope for eternal life in Heaven.
- Let's turn back to our poll and have a few people share examples (What materialism means to you, possession you cannot live without)
  - ❖ How can material blessings lead to **stewardship/witnessing**? Share examples.
  - ❖ How can we demonstrate **contentment** with what God has blessed us with?
    - ▶ Philippians 4:12-13
- Questions/Thoughts?



ALIVE!



Thank you!

ALIVE!  
MENE!