

Message from God’s Life-Giving Word

August 9, 2020

Letting Go of Stuff

- It’s better to have _____ of what does not matter and _____ of what does.

*Better one handful with tranquility than two handfuls with toil and **chasing after the wind**.*
Ecclesiastes 4:6

*Watch out! **Be on your guard** against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.* Luke 12:15

- What if the stuff you have is robbing you of the abundant life in Jesus you want?

One Handful Living

- _____

*When the young man heard this, he went away **sad**, because he had great wealth.* Matthew 19:22

- _____

*Incline my heart to your **testimonies**, and not to **selfish gain**! Turn my eyes from looking at **worthless things**; and give me **life in your ways**.* Psalm 119:36-37

- _____

*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. They are to **do good**, to be rich in good works, to **be generous** and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may **take hold of that which is truly life**.* 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Are you accumulating on Earth what you cannot keep?
Or are you investing in Heaven what you cannot lose?

Next Steps

1. Journal the following: What is something you want that you do not need? What is something you have that you do not need? Do you feel like you have way too much stuff, a little too much, about right, not enough, or not nearly enough? Why or why not?
 2. Read Ecclesiastes 4:6. How would you describe some specific examples of chasing after the wind? Think of someone who needs something you have but do not need. How could you give it to them? Now read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Which part of these commands are you doing well at? Which part do you want to grow in? Have you ever believed a thing, an amount of money, or a job would make you happy? How did it work out? Finally, read Matthew 19:22. What steps would you have to take in order not to walk away from this message sad like the rich man?
 3. Commit to a step and live it out this week. Write down a few things you will not buy, a few things you will get rid of, and a few ways you will give. How can you bless someone or some group in your community?
- REMEMBER:** *Your time in daily devotion and prayer is not just for your benefit. It’s also for the benefit of others. Share what God is teaching you.*