

GROUP LEADERS NOTES – STUDY 20

Question 4

- a) Treasures of earth refers to anything of value that can be lost in one way or another (compare the Rich Fool in **Luke 12:16-21**).
- b) Treasures on earth give no permanent security or satisfaction.
- c) Treasures in heaven are the complete opposite. They cannot be lost or taken away; they bring eternal satisfaction and security: **Psalm 16:11; 1 Peter 1:4**.

Question 5

- a) **1 Tim 6:10** is a good pointer where it is the 'love of money' which is the problem; rather than money itself.
- b) We should ask what has ultimate importance and what has short-term importance.
- c) The problem seems to be laying up treasures "*for yourselves*" (v19).
- d) **1 Tim 6:6-8** gives a good summary of what our correct attitude should be.
- e) The key is perhaps found in the word 'treasures'. We must not make treasures of our possessions (e.g. the rich young man in **Matt 19:21-22**).

Question 6

- a) Our heart will influence our treasure; but equally our treasure can influence our heart. Therefore we should make sure our heart is right with God.
- b) Does God come first in our lives, our time, our relationships, our possessions?
- c) **1 Tim 6:17** reminds us that God generously gives us things to enjoy. We should set our hope on the giver rather than the gift.

Question 1

- a) The original word for 'treasure' here does not refer to necessities but to luxuries that we stock-pile.
- b) Jesus is not saying we cannot have earthly things. The idea of motive and attitude that has pervaded this chapter continues in this passage.
- c) Treasures are things which we place extra value on and will go to great lengths to protect.
- d) The stark statement of verse 21 reveals the importance of this issue in respect to what we place most value on; the 'now' or the 'then'.

Question 2

- a) Moths attack good cloth. Expensive garments in order to look and feel good can be ruined.
- b) Rust represents anything that decays over time.
- c) The idea of the thief concerns that which can be taken away from us.
- d) Examples for today can include expensive possessions that can be ruined or depreciate in value; investments that can be lost; and anything we cannot take with us when we die.
- e) It is not wrong to have possessions; it is the value we place on them that is important.

Question 3

- a) Obedience to God in all areas of our lives; seeking to please Him.
- b) Christian service, witnessing, praying for others, souls won to Christ, giving to those in need.
- c) "*What you invest in ministering to others is capital laid up in God's Bank*" (F B Meyer)