Introduction

God often uses circumstances to reveal the idols in our heart.

Money is one of the most common idols.

That’s probably why Jesus talked about money so often.

We see it in other places in Scripture too.

- “The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.” I Timothy 6:10
- “Greed is idolatry.” Colossians 3:5

But do we see it in ourselves?

I. Where is my treasure – on earth or in heaven? Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth.”

Stop doing it!

Why shouldn’t we store up treasure on earth?

- It’s not a wise investment.
- It’s dangerous. “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Where we put our money shows what we value. And our hearts are drawn to it.

II. Who is my master – God or Money? Matthew 6:22-25

What we see affects the way we live.

That’s why it is so important to know the word of God.

Who is on the throne in our heart?

Either wealth will be a tool to serve Christ or it will be an idol that displaces Christ.

R. G. LeTourneau

By the end of his life he was giving away 90% of his profit to the Lord’s work and was living on 10%. 
“I think the secret of a real out and out Christian life is to fall in love with the Lord.”

III. Who is my provider – God or me? Matthew 6:25-34

Don’t worry, your father knows what you need.

“Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness.”

God is our provider.

Being a follower of Jesus doesn’t mean:

- I must live a life of asceticism.
- That providing for the future shows a lack of faith.
- That you can’t be in business to make a profit.
- All wealthy people have made money their god.

But it does mean:

- Everything I own belongs to God.
- I am just a steward of what I have been given.
- The tithe belongs to God.

There are three primary purposes for money in Scripture.

- To care for myself and my family and not be a burden to others.
- To help those who are in need, especially the family of faith.
- To encourage and support God’s work in spreading the gospel at home and around the world. Michael Wilkins in the NIV Application Commentary

Conclusion

Follow Christ’s example.

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.” II Corinthians 8:9

Give generously

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” II Corinthians 9:7-8

Will you ask God what he wants you to give?