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## **BEYOND MATERIALISM**

*“Don’t collect for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But collect for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroy, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

**Matthew 6:19-21 HCSB**

**In our modern society, we need money to live.** But as Christians, we must never make the acquisition of money the central focus of our lives. Money is a tool, but it should never overwhelm our sensibilities. **The focus of life** must be squarely **on things spiritual**, not things material.

**Whenever we place our love for material possessions above our love for God**-or when we yield to the countless other temptations of everyday living-we find ourselves engaged in a struggle between good and evil, a clash between God and Satan. Our responses to these struggles have implications that echo throughout our families and throughout our communities. **Let us choose wisely by freeing ourselves from that subtle yet powerful temptation: the temptation to love the world more than we love God. AMEN.**

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**When possessions become our god**, we become materialistic and greedy ... and we forfeit our contentment and our joy.

**~Charles Swindoll**

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**If you want to be truly happy, you won’t find it on an endless quest for more stuff.** You’ll find it in receiving God’s generosity and then passing that generosity along.

**~Bill Hybels**

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*“No one can serve two masters. The person will hate one master and love the other, or will follow one master and refuse to follow the other. You cannot serve both God and worldly riches.” AMEN. Matthew 6:24 NCV*

**100 Daily Prayers - For My Family (pages 105; 106)**

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

