

What We Want Most

MAIN THING

Satan will always try to get you to trade what you want most for what you can have now

SCRIPTURE

Luke 6:17-26, Galatians 6:7-8

ICEBREAKER

If I had to teach a class on one thing, I would choose

OPENING THOUGHT

What do you want most? That's a tough question. We could give plenty of answers to this question, but the plain and simple fact is that we are always being tempted to trade what we want most for what we can have now. Satan works in the immediate and the urgent. He plays on our natural impatience and desire for immediate gratification, and steals the things we want most in life by substituting something lesser that we don't have to wait for. We trade our dreams, our goals, and our values for the lure of the immediate.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was the one thing that you heard this past Sunday that stuck out to you? Why did it resonate with you like it did?

2. In this passage, Jesus emphasizes the value of things that are promised, that will matter in eternity. He warns against the things we crave in the here and now. He tells us that the things we are satisfied with now have a short shelf-life, and the only thing that matters is what will matter long-term. Have you ever fallen for something that promised more than it delivered? Describe it to your group.

3. Jesus warns us about four things in verses 24-26, and they are things that most people desire. Being rich, well-fed, happy, and liked are probably the four things most people want out of life. Why would Jesus warn us about these things that seem to be very desirable?

LIFE APPLICATION

Living with an eternal perspective changes things remarkably. Without an eternal perspective, we are vulnerable to anything and everything that comes along. We are at risk of making our home here in this world, enjoying the rewards and comforts of this world while sacrificing our eternity. Jesus calls us to make decisions in light of the temporary nature of this world and what will matter in eternity.

CHALLENGE

How does understanding Satan's strategy- getting you to sacrifice what you want most for what you can have now- guide you in everyday decision making?