

TREASURE HUNTERS - Treasure Compassion

Pastor Michael Foster

According to Proverbs and the rest of the Bible, there is something that determines whether or not I will experience blessing or cursing. It is the difference between reward and judgment. My faithfulness in this area directly corresponds with my financial stability and job security. Whether God answers my prayers and accepts my worship hinges on this as well. One can look at this area of my life and know how closely and genuinely I relate with God. According to the Word of God, it is my _____

When you treasure compassion, you treasure _____!

If you're going to read the Bible, you're going to read about God's

_____ and the help He wants to give them through _____!

➤ _____ God's Heart

➤ _____ God's Heart

➤ _____ God's Heart

Which way will you move your boundary stone?

Repent of ungodly attitudes. Resolve to take godly action.

FOR FURTHER ACTION AND REFLECTION:

- Memorize Proverbs 23:10-11 and read a chapter of Proverbs each day
- Attend the informational meeting for Helping Hand after church on 9/22
- Read *the Immigration Crisis* by James K. Hoffmeier
- Read *the Fields of the Fatherless* by Tom Davis
- Listen to "All the Poor and Powerless" by All Sons & Daughters - www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieOL4X3nk2c
- Volunteer with Building Families for Children - <https://buildingfamiliesforchildren.org/volunteer/>

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

1. Share something that has stood out to you in your own reading of Proverbs this past week.
2. What stood out to you most from the message?
3. What stands out to you in these Proverbs: 22:9, 14:21, 28:27, 19:17, 22:22-23, 22:16, 29:14, 21:13, 23:10-11, 15:25?
4. What do you observe about God's heart for the poor in the following passages: Psalm 12:1-8, Psalm 68:1-6, Psalm 146:6-9, Isaiah 58:1-12, Jeremiah 22:11-17?
5. As you think of the ministry of Jesus, how did He express and exemplify God's heart for the poor?
6. We see categories for the poor in the Old Testament such as "orphan," "widow," and "foreigner." Who are the most vulnerable and marginalized in our world today that we need to compassionately love and help with the most intentionality?
7. What efforts have you been part of in the past to serve and help people in need? What blessing did you experience as a result? What challenges did you face?
8. How have you seen God work through our Helping Hand ministry in the past? Having heard how the Lord is revitalizing that ministry, how might you expect Him to work in the future?
9. How does helping the poor relate to our mission of making disciples in Matthew 28:19-20? In what ways can we be sure to prioritize the gospel (Romans 1:16, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4) in benevolence ministry?
10. Having studied so much of what God says about the poor, what does it look like for us to come to God as "poor and needy" (Psalm 86:1) or "poor in spirit" (Matthew 5:3)?
11. What is one action you can take to apply the message to your life this week? This year?