

Daily Devotional, March 12, 2021 Where Does *Your* Treasure Lie?

Do not store up for yourself treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourself treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is there your heart will also be. Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV)

There was a new Netflix series that had taken the streaming world by fire a few years ago, “Tidying Up with Marie Kondo.” This show is about people who have way too much stuff, which we’re all probably guilty of for the most part. Marie is this very sweet little lady who helps people to declutter their homes. She has a most interesting view on how to decide what items to keep and what to give away. She tells her clients to look at an object and to ask themselves, does it, “spark joy.”

The first episode that I watched, I laughed, and I noticed that it was tagged by a number of memes (funny photos with messages) that said things like, “She told me to throw out what doesn’t spark joy! So far, I’ve thrown away the kale, my cleaning products and the treadmill.” Although I had to laugh at the memes, I sat there afterward, and really had to give that notion some serious thought. What if we all participated in this challenge?

The season of Lent is a perfect time for us to start a new practice. If it doesn’t “spark joy” for us, then why are we holding onto it? And this doesn’t only apply to material things. We all have things in our lives that we spend more time thinking about or doing than we spend on talking to God in prayer and in doing His work. Unfortunately, this is part of our human nature.

But during this season of Lent I am going to do my best focusing on storing up my treasures in Heaven and not here on earth. I am slowly going through dresser drawers, boxes of things packed with things I have no real idea why I hung onto them, and various other things that have added to the overall clutter in our home.

Out of all of this grew things I had to think about: Which of these occupies more of my time and thoughts, God, or earthly things? What do I value as my true actual treasures? What are *God’s*, not mine, desires and goals for my life? Do mine match God’s? I urge you to take some time this week to give this some serious thought. Do your own assessment, and then ask God for His. Listen carefully for God’s voice and do your best to follow God’s direction. When we are honest and truly discerning, I think it is amazing just how much we hold onto meaningless things, and how many of these things can form walls of clutter between us and God. To quote an old adage: “Let go—let God!”

Prayer: Dear God, I pray this season of Lent I am able to have clear eyes of what your plans and goals are for me. I pray that I may have a clear focus on what my true treasures are and the ability to acknowledge what sparks joy in my life and what does not. May I realize that my true treasures will be found in heaven. Thank you, God, for letting me know that as your child, I can find rest in your love and care, for there I will find never-ending joy. In the name of your son, Jesus Christ I pray, Amen.