

Church Family,

An internet search on the amount of money Americans spend on lotteries shows that during 2017 (the most recent year available), more than \$71.8 billion was spent. That represents approximately \$220 per individual in this country.

Regarding the multi-billion dollar lottery industry, Pastor David Jeremiah made this observation: People spend that money on the fantasy that they might be the one to hit the jackpot—as if God appeared and said, "Ask Me for whatever you want."

Granted, the Lord did say to King Solomon when he became king of Israel, "Ask. What should I give you?" Of course, all those modern day lottery players would be surprised by Solomon's answer, as he simply asked for wisdom to lead the Lord's people. Scripture goes on to tell us that Solomon became the wisest king on earth. Solomon recognized that true wealth is found in the wisdom to advance the kingdom of God on earth. He was later rewarded with great wealth and stature.

Centuries later, during His Sermon on the Mount, our Lord Jesus challenged us with these words:

"Don't store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don't break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21

Knowing that every material possession we accumulate will be left behind when the Lord calls us home, how do we store up treasures in heaven? The obvious answer to that question is found in another question: Who is going to heaven? We are, of course. But who else is going to heaven? How about other people; people over whom we have influence? When Jesus tells us to store up treasures in heaven, He is really telling us to invest what we have—our time, our talents, and yes, our money to help others get there.

The implication is that we have a choice between investing in things that lead to greater temporal wealth in the present, or we can store up for ourselves eternal treasures in heaven. Those earthly treasures will perish, but Jesus promises that those treasures we store up in heaven will be safe for eternity

Imagine stepping into heaven and being greeted by someone living forever because you faithfully stored up your treasures in heaven.

Where are your treasures today?

-Bruce

The Creek Courier

Weekly Update September 19, 2020

Loving God

Learning Together

Leading Others to Christ

Sunday Worship

In-person

10:30 a.m.

Face Coverings Required

Drive-In FM 107.5

Facebook Live
New Sandy Creek

Deacon Ordination Service Sunday Evening at 6:00

Elliot Fuller will be ordained Sunday evening, September 20 as we recognize and affirm the Lord's call of Elliot to deacon ministry.

Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study
6:30
Meeting in Larry Johnson's LifeGroup Classroom
Family Life Center
Face Coverings Are Required

Restart Team
Kickoff Meeting
Tuesday evening, September 22 at 6:30
Larry Johnson's LifeGroup classroom.

Churchwide LifeGroup
Sunday mornings 9:30–10:15
In-person in the sanctuary
or Facebook livestream.

Pastors Tim and Josh and your deacons are available to help with any needs you might have. On-call deacon for the next week is Gordon Wilder. Gordon can be reached at 252-432-2441. Pastor Tim can be reached at 252-432-6780. Pastor Josh can be reached at 919-606-0537