

Tuesday November 10, 2015

"Sell your possessions and give to those in need. This will store up treasure for you in heaven! And the purses of heaven never get old or develop holes. Your treasure will be safe; no thief can steal it and no moth can destroy it. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be."

Luke 12:33-34 (NLT)

Sacrifice is an intriguing term. The value of it's meaning is hugely dependent upon the context of its use. When you first hear the word, what might quickly come to mind is loss. I give up something of value. If you are playing the game of chess, it defines a strategic move that will ultimately lead to one having the upper hand. Its use in Scripture means an offering to God. Sacrifice is only as valuable as the recipient that one is making a sacrifice too. For the skilled chess player, sacrifice is appreciated when you reach your goal of audibly declaring to your opponent, "Check Mate".

When was the last time you remember seeing something and thinking, "I've got to have that?" Was it food? Technology? Entertainment?

What are some commercials you've seen recently that tried to convince you that you had to have something?

Generosity is about faith. When we believe God will provide for us and has our best in mind, we will be willing to give Him whatever He asks for. We begin to see the destruction that greed brings with it.

What are some ways you have seen greed with things other than money? What does our greed show us about our hearts?

Think back to the worst pain we've experienced at the hand of someone else. That pain happened because of greed—that person had or kept something they would not extend to you. That's the way greed works; it sneaks up on us and kills the work God wants to do in and through us.