

Living In a Material World

The rock star Madonna sang the hit song Material Girl a few years back. Most people know the words to the chorus where she sings, “Living in a material world and I am a material girl. You know that we are living in a material world and I am a material girl.” You may know the chorus but you probably don’t know the first few lines of the song. Madonna basically says that what matters to her is how much money a guy has. She says, “They can beg and they can plead but they can’t see the light, that’s right ‘Cause the boy with the cold hard cash is always Mister Right, ‘Cause we are living in a material world and I am a material girl.”

Madonna may have spoken the words that convey the heart of many in our materialistic society but her words are far from the words of Jesus. In Luke 12: 22 – 31 Jesus says,²² “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear.²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life?²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith!²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it.³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.”

Jesus is saying that we should not worry about the materialistic things of the world. Our focus should be on seeking Christ’s Kingdom. When we seek the Lord one of the promises is that God will take care of the rest. I don’t know about you but I am going to put my trust in the words of Christ rather than the words of a rock star. Long after Madonna is gone and her song forgotten the words of Jesus will still be giving us direction in how to live life to its fullest.

This morning as our ushers come forward let’s seek His Kingdom with a worthy gift.