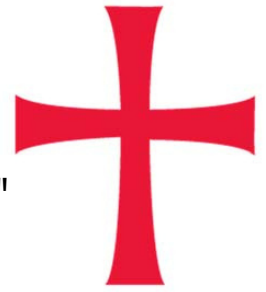




## Scripture Theme 2021-2022



"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."  
Luke 12:34

### *Background*

At first glance, this verse might seem pretty straightforward: Jesus doesn't want us to worry about accumulating money, and we should instead focus on storing up "treasure in heaven," as he says earlier in this chapter of Luke's Gospel. However, the meaning behind Christ's words could be even more challenging—what if "treasure" refers not just to our material goods, but also to our time, thoughts, and energy?

If this is the case, then this verse acts as a sort of examination of conscience for our priorities, asking us to do the difficult task of answering this question: **Is what we claim to be most important to us (where our heart is) actually shown through our actions (treasure)?** In other words, if I say that my faith, my family, or my friends are most important to me, does how I spend my time and energy really reflect that? It is our actions, Jesus is saying, that show us where our heart is, and it is our integrity that helps our expressed beliefs match our actions.

Naturally, other questions come with that: **"What should my treasure (highest priority) be? What should my heart desire that is most worthy of my time and energy? What is ultimately going to make me happy in life?"**

There are a lot of different ways that people try to answer these questions, but our faith gives us our response: Ultimate satisfaction can be found in our relationship with the loving God who placed that desire for happiness in our hearts in the first place! Of course, there are many other great treasures in our lives that God has given us—our family, our friends, and our school community, to name a few. These are wonderful reflections of God's love in our lives! **But the challenge of our scripture verse this year is that Jesus greatly desires for us to seek him as our greatest treasure and to give our hearts to him through both our prayer and our love of neighbor.** In doing this, we will find the peace, purpose, and happiness that we were made for!

### *Questions for Reflection*

- What are some competing priorities in your life right now?
- When in your life have you felt a disconnect between what you said your priorities were and what your actions showed that they were? In other words, when is it hard to maintain your integrity?
- What are ways that we can better seek Jesus as our treasure, both individually and as a school community?