

# **Beyond Sunday with Scripture References**

## **Just Say No to Greed**

### **A Sermon Application Guide**

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with this message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

#### **Message Theme & Prayer Focus**

Just Say No to Greed

*“Father, prepare my heart to receive what you have for me in this message. Thank you for your love, your truth, and your desire to see me grow, thrive, and become more of the person you created me to be. Thank you for blessing me to be a blessing. It’s by your strength that I will continue in that, all the days of my life to glorify you, in Jesus’ name. Amen!”*

#### **Key Concepts/Truths**

Jesus taught us to pray that the Kingdom of Heaven would come now, and not for us to focus on going somewhere else, some other time. The Kingdom is here now, and Jesus wants it to affect our lives and change the world today.

We believe the Word of God is the most powerful thing, but we can’t misunderstand that the deceitfulness of riches, or greed, will choke the Word out of our lives, making it ineffective.

Greed lies to us by saying that if we just had more that we would be more valuable, have more purpose, and greater ability. But our net worth and our self worth are not the same, and our life is more than the abundance of things that we have.

Money does not give purpose, security, peace, or happiness. Money is a wonderful servant, but a terrible master, because it is never satisfying. When God blesses us, He wants us to enjoy that blessing, but we’ll never find our identity in temporary things that we receive. We should be ready to give generously out of what has been given to us and be willing to share.

Money itself is not inherently evil. It’s a magnifier, and allows us to do more of whatever we are already doing and multiply what is already in our heart. With money comes the responsibility to be accountable to the Lord with how we use what we have been given to build His Kingdom.

God blesses us financially to be able to give. The real purpose of money is for us to give and meet needs. Tithing (the first 10%) is a vital part of that blessing lifestyle.

God put into our very being everything we would need in order to do every great thing He has already planned for us. He created us in such a way that we would be more fulfilled by doing what He created us for than by anything the world has to offer us.

When we take something that is temporary and put it into the Kingdom of God it instantly becomes eternal. It will be worth every penny when we do.

Key Verses:

Titus 2:12-14 • Luke 12:15 • Ecclesiastes 5:10 • Ecclesiastes 9:13-15 • 1 Timothy 5:8 • 1 Timothy 6:10 • 1 Timothy 17-19 • 2 Kings 4:7 • Malachi 3:10

### **Daily Application**

Money is a magnifier. It enlarges what already exists in our heart. If there is a love for others and the desire to bless them in our heart, then when we come into blessing we'll be ready to do what God intended for us to do--give. But we can't wait and think "once I am blessed, then I will be a blessing to others". We need to start where we are with what we have. We've all been given something from our good Father who gives good gifts. Whether it be finances, talent, time, or anything else, all that is required to be a giver is to have a right heart posture.

As we allow the Lord to prepare us and set our heart right in our current situation, we'll be ready to be a blessing to others with the things that God has blessed us with. One practice we can actively engage in to develop a right heart is to give thanks to God regularly for what we have. When we recognize Him as the source of everything we are and everything that we have, we'll begin to steward those things in a greater way because we realize that they're not our own. The Lord gives, so that we can also give. He's modeling a way for us to follow, and since there is a way that the Lord deems right, then let us fully follow that way and experience life as He intended.

### **This Week's Declarations**

"I look not to temporary things for security, happiness, and provision, but to God and His ability to meet all my needs. I do not look to the abundance of things to find my identity or self worth, but to God and who He created me to be. I follow and trust God and His plan for my life. I allow Him to mold and mature me into someone that loves to bless others so that, when I am blessed, I can share out of what has been given to me and build the Kingdom, in Jesus' name!"

### **What's Next?**

Now it's time to write down anything that the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, Thank Him and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

## Scripture References

### Just Say No to Greed

#### **Luke 12:15 NKJV**

And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

#### **Mark 4:19 NKJV**

and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

#### **Matthew 6:33 NKJV**

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

#### **Ephesians 2:10 AMPC**

For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live].

#### **Ecclesiastes 5:10 NKJV**

He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; Nor he who loves abundance, with increase. This also is vanity.

#### **Ecclesiastes 9:13-15 NKJV**

This wisdom I have also seen under the sun, and it seemed great to me: There was a little city with few men in it; and a great king came against it, besieged it, and built great snares around it. Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that same poor man.

#### **1 Timothy 6:10 NKJV**

For the love of money is a root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have been led astray and have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves through with many acute [mental] pangs.

#### **Luke 12:15 NKJV**

And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."

#### **1 Timothy 5:8 NKJV**

But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

#### **2 Kings 4:7 NKJV**

Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest."

**Ephesians 4:28 NKJV**

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

**Malachi 3:10 NKJV**

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

**Matthew 6:19-20 NKJV**

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

**Luke 16:11-13 NKJV**

Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own? "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

**Revelation 2:10 NKJV**

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

**Proverbs 13:22 NKJV**

A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

**Genesis 25:5-6 NKJV**

And Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac. But Abraham gave gifts to the sons of the concubines which Abraham had; and while he was still living he sent them eastward, away from Isaac his son, to the country of the east.