

## *Lay Up Treasures in Heaven*



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What are the things you love the most? What do you treasure? It could be your bicycle or a favorite toy. It could be video games, a jar full of candy, or even a piggy bank stuffed with cash. Of course, these are all good things that come, ultimately, from God. It's okay to enjoy God's good gifts, but we shouldn't treasure them or love them the most. In fact, the Bible says it's foolish to make earthly things our treasure. Why?

One reason is because earthly treasures just don't last. In Bible times people treasured fine clothing and gold coins. But moths would often eat the clothing and coins could eventually be destroyed by rust or stolen by thieves. Even today, toys get broken, candy grows stale, and money gets lost or stolen. These things just won't last. So why would you waste your life trying to get earthly treasure that has no lasting value?

Instead, we should lay up (or store up) treasures in heaven. How? By making Jesus our greatest treasure, and living our lives to please him. The Bible says when you help those in need; you're laying up treasures in heaven. When you serve others, or when you share the good news about Jesus, you're laying up treasures in heaven. God sees every good thing you do in Jesus' name and he's promised to reward you in heaven. Your heavenly reward will last forever. So don't waste your life seeking earthly treasure, spend it on things that will last.

Jim Elliot, who was a missionary, once said, *"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."* What do you think he meant by that? What are some ways you can lay up treasures in heaven?