

What We Trade Away (2020)



Week Three: Timeless for Temporary

Overview

Have you ever made a bad trade? All of us have at some point. Maybe we gave away a car that we wish we would have held on to. Maybe when you were a kid, you traded away a baseball card that would have been worth a lot of money now. But what about trading away things of much greater value? Things such as our integrity, or our commitment, perhaps even a life of adventure for one of apathy? We make these trades all the time, though they may be a little more subtle. Over time, if we don't recenter ourselves – we can lose all of the good things, and only be left with the hollow shell of what we traded it for.

In this week's message, George taught us about the dangers of trading the timeless for the temporary. Each of us make this trade often. The world and the things within it are tempting, and often we can choose the things that the world has to offer over the better, eternal things that our Father has for us. This is an opportunity to self-reflect as a group about the ways in which we make this trade, and how instead we can shift our orientation to seeking God's Kingdom first.

Reading and Discussion

1. Begin this session by spending some time in prayer for your group. Ask if there are any pressing prayer requests on the minds of the people in your group. If you'd like, ask each person to pray for the person beside them. This is a great way to build trust and community among group members.
2. **Read Matthew 19:16-22.** What stands out to you from this story?
3. Can you think of a time in your life in which you've made a similar decision as the rich young ruler? A time in which you traded away timeless or eternal treasure for something temporary and worldly? How did that decision go? Would you make that decision again? Share, if you feel comfortable.
4. **Read 1 John 2:15-17.** What does this passage communicate to us about choosing the temporary over the eternal?
5. As you close, ask each person to think of one or two direct ways that they can choose the timeless over the temporary this week, and live with a mindset that is focused on eternity.