

WEEK 3

“I want him to draw me to himself in some imagined loving irresistible way such that I won't simply want to want him but will actually want relationship with him more than anything else.”

-Curt Thompson



“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.”

-Matthew 6:19-20

Scripture Reading:**Matthew 6:19-24****For Reflection & Discussion:**

1. The reading above focuses on wealth as the main distraction or idol we put in the way of our relationship with God. What things other than wealth tend to distract you from God? (Examples: power, control, sex, food, or something else)
2. Reflect on the difference in emotions/mental states that you experience when you're focusing on the above things vs. when you are focused on the love of God. How does that change the way you interpret what "having an unhealthy eye" means?
3. Which of the means of grace listed in the engaging our faith section most resonate with how you have experienced the grace of God in your life? Which ones have been difficult to incorporate into your life? Why is that the case?

ENGAGING OUR FAITH:

John Wesley described the main focus of a genuine Christianity as loving God and others more perfectly. The focus for Wesley was not on perfect action, rather it was on having a perfectly loving attitude that could only be possible through the grace of God. Wesley described certain actions as means of grace in which we can experience God's empowering grace by partaking in them. These actions included prayer, reading of the scriptures, the Lord's Supper, corporate worship, accountability groups, and other examples. We can engage our faith by participating in these means of grace that place our focus on God and help us to grow in our love of God and others.