

Matthew 6:33

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

We all know this verse very well. But are we living it, or have we turned it into something else, like: *But seek first all these things to be added to you, and then the kingdom of God.*

Or maybe some have turned it into: *Don't seek the kingdom of God at all so that you can have all these things added to you.*

“**Things**”, have you ever thought about that word? You could put it a little more into perspective if we call it something that we are more familiar with, like “Stuff” Everybody wants “things” and “stuff”, and some will go to any length to get things and stuff. Not only for themselves, but also for their kids, or spouse, or even their friends. We look to things and stuff to bring joy and fulfillment into our lives. But once we get tired of the things and stuff we have, we go find other things and stuff to replace the things and stuff we have grown tired of.

But what if we did what Jesus said to do before we chased after things and stuff? What if we truly sought the kingdom of God (***Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness***) before we sought after things and stuff?

So why should we seek the Kingdom of God first before we seek after things and stuff? Let's say that you wanted to find a diamond, and not just any diamond, but a huge, flawless diamond like you have never seen before. So, where would you go to try and find it? Probably the best place would be a manure factory as you dig through all that manure to find your diamond.

“Wait a minute Steve, why would you dig through manure to try and find a diamond? That sounds stupid.”

It sounds about as smart as trying to find fulfillment in the things of this world. Remember that Jesus said:

† **Matthew 13:44-46** ***Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.***
Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Yes, the real treasure and fulfillment is not in the things and stuff that you get here. But the real treasure and fulfillment are the treasures that you are storing up in heaven.

† **Matthew 6:19-21** *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. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

Did you catch the last sentence here? *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* Now put it together with today's devotional verse: *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

You see, once you start seeking the kingdom of heaven. All those earthly things and stuff that you desire to try and make you happy, or content, all start to disappear, because they are no longer things that you are seeking for fulfillment in your life. It gets to the point that you could care less about things and stuff of this world, because you have found where real joy comes from, and that's in the things of God (*the kingdom of God and His righteousness*), and not the things of this earth. And you also discover that it does not waste away or get boring, like the things and stuff of this world does.

† **Psalm 35:27** *Let them shout for joy and be glad, who favor my righteous cause; And let them say continually, "Let the LORD be magnified, who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant."*

† **Habakkuk 3:18** *Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.*