



infants

TREASURE

In the middle of his most famous sermon, Jesus gives us some important instructions about treasure (Matthew 6:19-20). He warns us not to lay up our treasures on earth (“where moths corrupt and thieves break in and steal...”), but instead to store our treasures in heaven (where neither of those things happen). Another way of paraphrasing Jesus’ instruction is that we shouldn’t invest our lives in stuff, which won’t last very long. Rather, we should invest our lives in things that don’t have an expiration date, things that will last for eternity.

As new parents, though, it is very easy to invest in stuff. Look at your home, which just a few months ago was likely neat and tidy,

and in the blink of an eye it becomes overrun with baby equipment and toys. One of the reasons we are so apt to invest in stuff is because it produces an immediate reaction of joy for and from our kids. It is so easy to buy stuffed animals from favorite movies and shows or to want all the latest learning games and devices. But that stuff all has a shelf life. Just swing by the nearest garage sale sometime, and you’ll see tons of toys, games and baby equipment for sale. Not that any of those things are bad – they’re not. (Many

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of them do bring great joy in the moment, which is a good thing.) But it’s also true that they only last for a season in a child’s life.

The reminder, taken from Jesus’ instructions, is that we should make an investment of time and energy in those things that our kids won’t outgrow – things that last beyond a season of their life – and indeed prepare them to navigate future phases of life. Author Reggie Joiner remarks: “What I leave for my child is not nearly as important as what I leave in them.”

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The thing about treasure is this – rarely does someone stumble across a hidden treasure map, win the lottery or hit the jackpot. Treasure is rarely found; rather, it is built and saved through small, steady investments that add up over time. So our hope is that you’ll start now making those small investments that will create a future treasure for your child. For as Jesus reminds us, “Where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also.”