

**Read: Hebrews 11:24-28**

## Worth More than Anything

### **Hebrews 11:24-26**

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

*In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

If you could have anything and everything you ever wanted, would you take it? What if you had so much money you could buy anything you want—like big screen TVs and every game system, or a new bike every day, or even your own personal llama! What if you could do anything you want at any time, and no one could ever stop you? Would that be amazingly awesome? Or maybe, possibly, do you think that could be amazingly awful?

If you could have anything you want or do anything you want, do you think you might become greedy? Is it possible that your heart would love money and possessions too much? Do you think you might do some sinful things? Is it possible that you might be led away from God?

This might seem like an impossible situation for us, but this was a real-life situation for Moses. Moses had been adopted by the daughter of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Moses could have bought anything he ever wanted. He could have done anything he ever wanted. No one could stop him because he was in the king's palace. He could have been rich and powerful. And yet, Moses chose not to take all of that. Instead, he chose to be treated badly along with his fellow Israelite people.

Why would Moses do that? The Bible writer to the Hebrews gives us two reasons. First, he says that Moses chose to be with God's people instead of all the pleasures of sin. All that money and power would have led him away from God, not closer to God. Then the writer says this, "He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward." This means that Moses understood that God had something better to offer. The treasures that God offers are much better than king's clothing or a king's palace or riches and power. God offers the riches of his love as our heavenly Father. God offers all of his power as he protects us and provides for us. God offers us the riches of eternal life in heaven. What could ever be better than all that?

It might be very easy to look at all the things of the world around us and to wish that we had what other people have. "If only I had more money . . . If only I was famous," we might think. But

today we learn a valuable lesson from the Bible and from Moses. God gave us the greatest treasure of all—Jesus our Savior. Through Jesus we have endless spiritual riches here and in heaven. And that is worth more than anything!

*The questions below are to help families discuss this devotion. The questions are divided by age group as suggestions, but anyone could reflect on any of the questions as they desire.*

### **Questions for the Younger Children**

- Why could Moses have had anything or done anything if he wanted?
- What did Moses consider to be more valuable than worldly things?

### **Questions for Elementary Age Children**

- Why do money and possessions often lead people away from God?
- Explain why Jesus is more valuable than anything here in this world.

### **Questions for Middle School and Above**

- What things in this world do you think Satan might use try and lead you away from Jesus? Explain your answers.
- If God blesses you with children one day, how would you teach them that Jesus is more important than worldly things?

### **Closing Prayer:**

Dear Lord, help me to stay away from the sins of this world. Instead, lead me to follow you. Fill me with your love that I may live for you. Amen.

### **Hymn: CW 506:1,4-5 – Oh, Bless the House, Whate'er Befall**

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,  
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!  
A home that is not wholly his—  
How sad and poor and dark it is!

Blest such a house; it prospers well.  
In peace and joy the parents dwell,  
And in their children's lives is shown  
How richly God can bless his own.

Then here will I and mine today  
A solemn promise make and say:  
Though all the world forsake his Word,  
I and my house will serve the Lord!