

**SERMON TOPIC: UNMASKING – MY STUFF**

**SERMON OUTLINE**

(2 Corinthians 4 v 2 MSG) “We refuse to wear masks and play games. We don't manoeuvre and manipulate behind the scenes... Rather, we keep everything we do and say out in the open...”

**KEY POINTS**

**Behind the Mask**

(1 Timothy 6 v 9 - 10) “People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”

**Distressed.**

(Ecclesiastes 5 v 12) “The sleep of a laborer is sweet, whether he eats little or much, but the abundance of a rich man permits him no sleep.”

**Discontented.**

(Ecclesiastes 5 v 10) “Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income.”

**Disconnected.**

(1 Timothy 6 v 17) “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”

**Distracted.**

Luke 12 v 19 - 21) “And I'll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”

**UNMASKING – MY STUFF?**

(Haggai 1 v 5 - 6) “Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.”

1. **God owns it all.** (1 Chronicles 29 v 10 - 11) “Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.”

2. **I am His manager.** (Luke 16 v 10 - 11) “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?”

3. **God's plan works.** (2 Cor 9 v 6 -8) <sup>6</sup>But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows <sup>abundantly</sup>bountifully will also reap <sup>abundantly</sup>bountifully. <sup>7</sup>So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of <sup>compulsion</sup>necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

4. **Heaven, not earth is my goal.** (Matthew 6 v 19 - 20) “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

**SUMMARY:**

**A lot of us are living two lives and we have a face for each of them: outwardly we display our got-it-together face, which masks an inner private life that's often filled with pain. Here we address how to stop the masquerade and get help. The help that comes when we're honest and vulnerable with our loving, healing God.**

