Where is Your Treasure? Pastor Steve Maske Good Shepherd, Elgin

Are you defined by what you own? For many of us living in our consumer driven society, the sad reality is...yes. We live our lives, "keeping up with the Joneses." We want what everyone else has, or more! But this approach to life is a lie. If our goal in life is to find happiness in the things that we buy, we will never be happy and content because that type of happiness will never last. Here in the US, consumerism is rampant. The storage industry is booming. Why? Because we continue to buy more stuff than we need. That may be because we would all like to believe the old saying, "The person with the most toys, wins!" But the truth is actually, "The person with the most toys, still dies...!"

Jesus said, "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." (Matthew 6:19-21)

If you are defined by earthly treasures, then your happiness will fade away. But if your treasure is Jesus Christ then you can be eternally rich today! You have the riches of Jesus' love and the forgiveness that He brings. Our identity is not in what we possess, but in who possesses us, Jesus Christ! "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Live rich in Jesus' love!