## **BAGGAGE CLAIM-FINDING FREEDOM IN CHRIST**

Day Two: Letting Go of "Stuff"

**Scripture:** "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." – Matthew 6:19-21

It's amazing how much space "stuff" takes up—not just in our closets, but in our hearts. We buy, collect, and cling to things because they bring comfort, identity, or status. Sometimes we hold on because we fear doing without. Other times, we attach memories or emotions to objects until they become harder to release than they should be.

But here's the truth: the more we accumulate, the heavier we feel. Possessions are like baggage. The more we load into our arms, the harder it is to walk freely. Jesus warns us not to get tied up storing treasures here on earth, because they don't last. Clothes wear out, gadgets break, and even the nicest homes eventually age. What lasts forever is what we store in heaven—acts of love, generosity, obedience, and service.

There's also a subtle trap in possessions: comparison. The pressure to "keep up" with friends, neighbors, or family can weigh us down just like emotional baggage. It's easy to measure ourselves by cars, houses, clothes, or vacations, but Jesus reminds us that our value has nothing to do with the size of our bank account or the number of things we own.

Letting go doesn't always mean selling everything or living with bare walls. It means holding things loosely—recognizing that everything belongs to God, and we're just stewards for a season. When we stop gripping our

possessions so tightly, we open our hands to receive the joy and freedom He wants to give us.

## Reflection:

- Are there possessions you're holding on to for security, identity, or comfort that might be weighing you down?
- Is comparison stealing your peace and joy?
- What would it look like to live lighter in your home, in your finances, and in your heart?

**Challenge:** Consider giving something away this week—not out of guilt, but as an act of freedom. Release it with the prayer: "Lord, all I have is Yours."

## **Prayer:**

Father, help me not to cling to things that fade. Teach me to treasure what is eternal, not what is temporary. Free me from comparison and the pressure to keep up. May my hands always be open—In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen