



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Do Not Feed the Moths	SPEAKER	Elder Lok Vi Ming
THEME	A Disciple-Making Church	DATE	29 & 30 August 2026

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In Matthew 6:19-21, Jesus warns us not to store up treasure on earth, where moths destroy and thieves steal. These moths may appear as greed, unwise investments, scams, misplaced priorities or indifference to the needs around us. If left unchecked, they can weaken our faith and cause us to lose our spiritual edge. Instead, Jesus calls us to store up treasures in heaven – for whatever we treasure reveals where our hearts truly are.

In this sermon, Elder Lok Vi Ming outlines 3 responses that we can adopt to stop feeding the moths in our lives:

- Fight the Moths – Recognising and confronting bad influences and injustice
- The posture of giving – Giving enthusiastically and being faithful with God's work
- Reflecting Christ's image – Pointing people to Jesus by being Christlike

DO NOT FEED THE MOTHS

1) Fight the Moths

There are many moths in our lives such as greed to get more money, poor investments that we do not think through properly, and scams that con people of their hard-earned money. The moths these days are very insidious, especially scams; they come to us in many ways and forms that are unsuspecting, and if we are not careful, we will fall for them. We should take offence against these scams so that we ourselves and those close to us do not become victims.

In 1 Samuel 17:45–50, when the Philistines taunted the armies of Israel who were outnumbered, David confronted Goliath and struck him down with a sling and stone. In 1 Samuel 14 – 23, Jonathan and his armour bearer took out the Philistines with just one sword.

As God's people, we should not be sitting on the fence but be responsible and protect what the Lord has given us and use it for His purpose. We should not tolerate injustice lest we lose our edge as Christians to change lives and win souls for the Lord but look for areas and people that we can help (Heb 11:33-34) and so store up treasures in Heaven (Luke 12:32-33).

2) The Posture of Giving

In 2 Corinthians 8:1-5, the apostle Paul cited the example of the churches of Macedonia who gave generously out of their extreme poverty to help the church in Jerusalem. In this regard, the decision to give comes from a posture of choice – giving despite the circumstances. It is also a posture of complete commitment – begging to give and giving enthusiastically (Ex 36:6).

In 1 Samuel 14:7, the brave unnamed armour bearer stood by Jonathan and went with him to fight the Philistines even though he knew they were two against thousands. Jonathan believed that they would win the battle if the Lord fought with them regardless of their numbers.

We have many such unsung heroes who have devoted unbeknown hours and effort to the work of the Lord both inside and outside of the church. Like the unnamed armour bearer, they may be unknown to men, but instrumental to God's work. In the posture of giving, we should not boast of our works in the Lord (Matt 6:3-4) nor get puffed up from our charity (1 Cor 13:4).

3) Reflecting Christ's Image

In Matthew 5:16, we are called to bear the light of God and let it shine so that others can see His glory. God's purpose is for His people to be like Christ and show others who Jesus is. When we tell someone about Jesus Christ, they might not know what Jesus looks like. But if we are like Christ, we can reflect, manifest and share Him with them.

CONCLUSION

In the story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the widow gave out of her poverty and the Lord said she gave above what the rich gave. It is a reminder that God looks at the posture of our heart and not the value that we give. Though we can be lacking in strength or time, we can still look to God's grace and contribute when we do not have enough. When we give our widow's mite, the Lord knows and He remembers.

Do not let the opportunity to do good, to bless, and to make a difference pass by (1 John 3:17).

QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think people sometimes find it easier to remain on the sidelines when they see injustice or someone in need? Think of a situation where you saw something wrong but hesitated to act. What held you back?

2. Jesus considers the widow's two copper coins greater than the gifts of the rich (Luke 21:1-4). Have you ever felt that what you have to offer God is "too little"? How does the story of the widow's mite challenge that thinking?

3. Who around you may need practical help, encouragement, protection or advocacy? What will it look like for you to reflect Christ's image in one relationship or situation this week? Alternatively, consider how you can also serve with Bethesda Care Services:
<https://bethesdacare.sg/volunteer/>