

Message Notes

Pastor Dave Gudgel

Date: August 13, 2017

Bible Focus: Luke 16:1-12

Current Series: The Stories Jesus Told

Message Title: One Shrewd Financial Dude

Three Shifts:

1. From _____ to _____

Luke 16:1-8a - Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'³ "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg-- ⁴ I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'⁵ "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ "Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred.'⁷ "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'⁸ "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly."

2. From _____ to _____

Luke 16:8b-9 - "For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

3. From _____ to _____

Luke 16:10-12 - 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. ¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Luke 16:1-12

1. How are you like or unlike the manager in Jesus' story?
2. How is the master's response to what the dishonest manager did troubling or encouraging to you?
3. For you to be shrewd about making eternal investments, what, if anything, needs to change in your investment plans?
4. How does knowing your financial investments could result in others' salvation impact you?
5. Does the possibility of being welcomed to heaven by friends who were won to Christ because of your financial investments change the way you think about giving? How?
6. Jesus said a steward (manager) must prove himself trustworthy with the little or much that one's been given. According to this story, trust results in what?
7. "In God we trust." Do we? What does that mean when it comes to money? What does the Lord want you to do with what you've learned today?