

MONEY MATTERS // Luke 16:1-13

Morning message from the series, The Gospel of Luke

Main Idea of the Series: Money is tied to heart. How we handle money, shows our heart.

In Luke 16, we see the passage divided into three parts: money matters (vv. 1-13), money reveals (vv. 14-18), and money deceives (vv. 19-31). In the first parable, we see that wealth can be used for one's welfare, and the second focuses on the Pharisees' love of money and God's ability to see into the human heart. In the last parable, Jesus shows us how the misuse of money can lead to a disaster. Love for money is disregard for the Lord. Jesus taught on money more than any other topic, the second being Hell. Both carry an eternal impact. Money is mentioned in many places in the gospel of Luke, including 10:30; 12:16; 14:16; 16:1, 19; and 19:12. Money matters to God, so it should matter to us.

In this first parable, we see that the manager is guilty. He is having a conversation within himself in verse three. The manager needs a bail out plan. He receives a pink slip and decides to turn it into an opportunity. How did he get to this point? In simple terms, he cheated his boss and was dishonest. More than likely he was paid under the table and worked the system to his advantage.

Rebukes on Stewardship (vv. 1-9)

- 1. Jesus calls his disciples to rightly manage their money to the affairs of this life.**
Jesus is saying that this man is more prudent in planning for the only future that he has than the typical religious person is in planning for his eternal future with God. God's people should give more attention to their souls than stocks and prepare their money for the future, not for the temporary now.
- 2. Jesus calls his disciples to rightly leverage their money for the concerns of the kingdom.**
We should invest in gospel. People might meet you in Heaven that could say thank you for contributing to the kingdom work.

Principles on Stewardship (vv. 10-13)

- 1. Faithful is as faithful does.**
Either you are faithful with money, or you are not. There is no accident. If you can't be faithful with small things, you can't be faithful with big things.
- 2. Serve God, not money.**
You cannot serve both God and money. We only have enough room in our heart for money or God.

Jesus left behind riches to be our Savior. He became poor so we could be rich. Jesus has every right to discuss finances with us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you master your money, or does your money master you? Is God or money in charge of your life?
2. How are you investing your money? Are your finances contributing or hindering the kingdom? What missions are you supporting?
3. What has God entrusted you with? Have you been faithful, or do you need to adjust your stewardship?