

How God Changes Us

EVALUATING MY VIEW OF MONEY Financial Health Dr. John Vawter

November 9, 2014

Luke 16:1-15

Principle #1 Money brings with it responsibility

D<u>iscipline</u>

Stewardship

Accountability for management

Principle #2 Confession is good for the soul

but bad for the reputation

Principle #3 Not all teachers are good people

The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings, Verses 8-9

Principle #4 Trustworthiness is of value

in the temporal

in the eternal

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

Principle #5 We cannot have two masters

We cannot love God and money

No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Verse 14

Principle #6 God looks at the heart

Our money cannot be our justification

The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. ¹⁵ He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight". Verses 14-15

Next Steps

- $\circ~~$ I will memorize Luke 16:13 this week.
- \circ ~ I will evaluate my view of money.
- $\circ~~$ I will evaluate my commitment to the kingdom of God.

Material is a ministry resource of Saddleback Church

SPIRITUAL HEALTH DEVOTIONAL THIS WEEK:

Day 36
Day 37
Day 38
Day 39
Day 40
Day 41
Day 42



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Play the weekly lesson from the Transformation DVD. The study guide in your Transformed workbook will provide questions for your LifeGroup to discuss and grow from this week. Outlined below are some additional study questions that can be used for personal reflection or discussion with friends.

THOUGHT: Money has tremendous power for influence, either for good or for bad. For that reason, Jesus had more to say about money than even about heaven or hell. Either you learn to manage it, or it manages you.

Open your group with a prayer and ask that the Holy Spirit would guide you during this important conversation.

READ Luke 16:1-13, the story of the shrewd manager.

- Everything on this earth belongs to God, and He tests our faithfulness first in the small things that He has given us to manage. What things (small or big) has God trusted you with? What would you like God to trust you with in the future? What can you change in the way you manage your possessions? What does God say will happen as a result? (See Luke 16:10-13)
- 2. Matthew 16:19-21 (NLT) "Don't store up treasure here on earth..Instead store your treasures in heaven..for wherever your treasure is, that's where your heart will be." Money shows what we love most. What is the difference between treasures on earth and treasures in heaven? Give examples of each, and discuss ways to invest in heavenly things.
- 3. A shrewd manager invests in God's kingdom by using affluence to influence. Why is it so difficult for us to become good stewards of the resources God has given us? In what ways, as transformed healthy financial managers, should we use temporary resources for permanent good?
- 4. Just like the steward and the rich man in this parable, one day God will ask each of us what we've done with what he's given us. How has this lesson changed the way you view money? What step can you take this week to make sure you're investing in eternity?