

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH

DATE: JANUARY 14, 2024

Investing Your Earthly Wealth with an Eternal Focus Luke 16:1-18

Recap

1. Count the cost of discipleship. (Luke 14:25-35)
2. Align your heart with God's. (Luke 15:1-32)

Jesus tells us how to use our wealth (16:9-13)

1. **In relationship to others: use it to make friends!**
Luke 16:9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.
2. **In relationship to ourselves: use it to be faithful to make eternal investments.**
Luke 16:10 "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. **11** If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? **12** And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?"
3. **In relationship to God: use it to supremely love him with all you have!**
Luke 16:13 No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

The Pharisees' response reveals the dangers of loving wealth (16:14-18)

1. They responded with antagonism toward Jesus revealing corrupt motives.
Luke 16:14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him.
2. They responded with evil hearts revealing self-justification and people-pleasing.
Luke 16:15 And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.
3. They responded with pride revealing apathy towards God's kingdom.
Luke 16:16 "The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and everyone forces his way into it.

4. They responded with contempt revealing blatant hypocrisy.

Luke 16:17 But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one dot of the Law to become void. **18** Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery.

Principles on how to use our money:

1. Remember where it comes from.

1 Tim. 6:17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

2. Maintain an eternal investment perspective.

1 Tim. 6:18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, **19** thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

3. Practice generosity with all, with a special focus on fellow believers.

Gal. 6:10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Reflection/Discussion

1. Do you find it difficult or easy to live generously with your earthly resources? How does keeping an eternal perspective free you up to "make friends" with your money?
2. As you go about this week pay attention to the places you frequent (work, restaurants, shops, etc.). Look for opportunities to make friends with your money.
3. Re-read Luke 16:13-18. What dangers lurk for those who attempt to serve two masters? Is that even possible? What does the love of money produce in the human heart?
4. Consider setting time aside this week to review your financial budget. Is there room to increase your eternal investments through generosity?

SONGS

"FOUND IN YOU"

"GOD SO LOVED"

"GREAT ARE YOU LORD"

"ALL HAIL KING JESUS"

Altamont Music Pastor: Shawn Hoelsch (shawn@vbc.online)

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 41,911.46

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:
(Last Entry 01/09) \$ 120,513.50

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