

## God Owns Everything, We Are Simply His Stewards.

### God Owns Everything:

- a. 1 Chr. 29:11-12, Hag. 2:8, Ps. 24:1

### Moving Toward Stewardship:

#### The Parable of the Dishonest Manager:

*“He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. 2 And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ 3 And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ 5 So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ 6 He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ 7 Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ 8 The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. 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. 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? 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.” Luke 16:1-13 ESV*

**Main Point:** Use your financial resources wisely.

#### Secondary Points that Flesh This Out:

### 1. Money is a tool (v.9).

- a. *“make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth”*  
 b. *“so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.”*

#### Application:

1. Giving as prescribed by the Scriptures.
  - a. Gifts that are motivated by the Gospel (grace), from your heart, in proportion with your income, regular/systematic, cheerful, and generous, and in faith. The tithe (10%) is a great place to start.
  - b. 2 messages that explain this in detail are online and will be podcasted this week.

2. Giving to and through your local church and then to other trustworthy Gospel ministries.
  - a. Invest in the church that is investing in you.
  - b. Plenty of other good ministries out there. Guidelines available.

#### Question:

*Am I using the money God has given me to manage as a tool to build His Kingdom?  
 How can I take the Next Step in right direction?*

### 2. Money is a test (v.10-12).

- a. Faithfulness with a little leads to greater responsibility.
  - i. *“One who faithful in little is also faithful in much...”*
  - ii. *“...unrighteous wealth...true riches?”*

#### Application:

1. Both earthly and eternal sense in regard to money.
2. Work.
3. Parenting. *Start your kids with a little and then increase their responsibility.*
4. Being raised up in ministry here at Crossing.

#### Question:

*Am I being faithful with what I have in front of me (money and all areas of life)?  
 How can I take the Next Step in right direction?*

### 3. Money is a trademark (v.13).

- a. *“...two masters...hate one...love the other...”*

#### Application:

1. Our money reveals where our hearts really are with God.
  - a. *“For where your treasure is, your heart will be also.” Matt. 6:21*

#### Question:

*Does my spending reflect that I belong to God?  
 How can I take the Next Step in right direction?*

#### Bible Bites for Teaching Your Family at Home:

- Everything we have belongs to God. He wants us to manage it wisely.
- We need to take care of our things because they belong to God.
- God gives money to use to tell boys and girls about Jesus.
- If you are faithful with a little, God will give you more. (Same with family.)
- Using our money wisely shows we belong to God.

Visit [www.crossinglouisville.com](http://www.crossinglouisville.com) for more helpful resources, including videos.

*Works Consulted : NIV Application Commentary, God and Your Stuff by Wesley K. Willmer, Hard Sayings of Jesus by F.F. Bruce, Life Application Bible, Expositor’s Bible Commentary, MacArthur Study Bible, L&ST Series by Andy Stanley*