


All Things New: The Money Manager

Luke 16:1-15

Brandon Lauranzon, February 23 & 24, 2019

Step 1: The Generosity Ladder

Turn to pages 16-17 of your *All Things New* booklet. Have someone in the group read out loud the content on page 16. Where are you now on your generosity journey? Where is God calling you to be? What would be needed for you to take the next step towards a more generous life?

 Read the sermon scripture(s) listed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

Step 2: The Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Do you struggle with being generous with money? Read Psalm 24:1 and 50:10. Discuss the difference between the following statements:
 - “What do I do with my stuff?”
 - “What do I do with God’s stuff?”
 - “What does God want me to do with God’s stuff?”
- 2 What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

THE TRUSTWORTHY MONEY MANAGER

- 3 Have you ever said or thought, “I will be more generous when I have more money.” How does Jesus address that line of reasoning?

- 4 The manager was accused of “squandering” his master’s possessions just like the prodigal son “squandered” his inheritance. Are you being responsible with what God has given you, or are you being reckless, wasting money on selfish, extravagant things?

THE SHREWD MONEY MANAGER

- 5 Brandon said, “Believers should act as shrewdly with regard to divine things as unbelievers do with regard to earthly things.” Define “shrewd” in your own terms.
- 6 *Eternal urgency*. Read Matthew 6:19-20. What do you think it looks like to store up treasures in heaven?
- 7 *Invest in people*. When you get to heaven one day, will you be greeted and welcomed by people who are there because of the way you invested God’s money during your life now?
- 8 Discuss the following quote by John Piper:

The best way that I know how to capture the spirit of the New Testament generosity is simply to say: the issue is not, “How much must I give?” but, “How much dare I keep?” Not: “Shall I tithe?” But: “How much of the money that I hold in trust for Christ can I take for my private use?” The financial issue in the church today is not tithing, but exorbitance of lifestyle. The question is not if you can afford to tithe, but can you justify the lifestyle that consumes 90% of your income? Behind that is the question: “Do I love to use God’s money to spread justice and mercy and spiritual hope in the world, or do I prefer to embezzle his money to purchase more and more personal comfort?”

THE DEVOTED MONEY MANAGER

- 9 How do you know if you are trying to serve God and money? How do you know if you love money? What did the video about Payless Shoes illustrate?
- 10 What did Brandon mean when he said, “In order to be freed from the love of money we have to have a collision with the grace of God”? Read and discuss 2 Corinthians 8:9.

Step 3: Final Reflections

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?