

Living a Life of Gospel-Fueled Service and Generosity

Lesson 8: Kingdom Focused Living

Sunday Message Text: Luke 16:1-15.

Big Idea: Our understanding that we have been given eternal life in God's Kingdom must cause us to live differently in this life.

Focus: God wants us to use what He's given us to make a real difference for the gospel and for eternity.

- 1) What is one thing from Sunday's message that "caused you to pause" and evaluate your attitude toward your wealth/possessions? Does it need to change? If so, how can that be done?

- 2) In view of Sunday's message and Luke 16:10-12, what main principle should manage the way we use our resources?

Read Matthew 25:14-30

- 3) What do the master and the three servants represent in this story? What do the "talents" (bags of gold) symbolize?

- 4) See v.15 – The master gave each servant a different number of talents (bags of gold), "according to his ability". What does this teach us about our own unique gifts and responsibilities?

- 5) The first two servants received the same compliment (*Well done, good and faithful servant*). What does this teach us about our faithfulness verses our results?

- 6) What was the third servant's view of the master? How did this view influence his actions? What is your view of the "Master"?
- 7) The third servant is called "wicked and lazy", and everything was taken from him. Do you think this penalty was mainly for not making a profit, or for his underlying attitude and fear? Explain.
- 8) The master's reward was "come and share your master's happiness". (*Matthew 25:21*) What does this phrase mean to you when you consider your own faithfulness?
- 9) This parable is about being prepared for Jesus's return. How does how you use your "talents" *today* impact how you're ready for *that* day?
- 10) How can you be a faithful servant with what God has given you? What are some practical steps you can take to "invest" your talents for His Kingdom?