



This week's sermon

NEXT IV: FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES

Luke 16:1-16

Why is Jesus telling us this story?

1. Jesus tells us this story to highlight, by comparison with unbelievers, the tendency for followers of God to be foolish in how they deal with their wealth.
2. Jesus tells us this story so that we will imitate the unjust manager by using the wealth of this world to make eternal friends.

In what ways are we to copy this dishonest manager?

1. The manager was generous with someone else's money.
2. The manager used his master's wealth to benefit himself.

This life you have, all the things you own, all that you are, all the opportunities given to you, all your abilities and capabilities –you have received them all from God –they are the wealth of someone else, given to you, so that you can give them away and gain the treasure of heaven.

Digging Deeper into the Message

Read Luke 16:1-16 and answer the questions.

Why was this man getting fired?

What did he do, and what was he hoping would happen as a result of his actions?

Why did the master commend him?

Do you think he still got fired? Would you fire him if you were the manager?

Why did Jesus tell this story?

What terminology does Jesus use to refer to money or earthly riches? (verse 9)

Read the text again and observe everything you can about the dishonest manager.

Are there changes you need to make to be more shrewd with your money?

Community Group

ICEBREAKER: Have you ever loaned someone something and never gotten it back? Did that bother you? Why?

QUESTIONS:

- ❖ Someone recount the story of the unjust manager from the beginning of the sermon or read Luke 16:1-16.
- ❖ Read point 1 on the MAP under “Why is Jesus telling this story”.
- ❖ How have you seen the tendency for followers of God to be foolish in how they deal with their wealth, especially compared to unbelievers?
- ❖ In what practical ways can you be more shrewd with your wealth?
- ❖ Read the next MAP point.
- ❖ In what practical ways can you use your wealth to make eternal friends and gain treasure in heaven?
- ❖ Read the two points under “In what ways are we to copy this dishonest manager”.
- ❖ Where can you get some of God’s money?
- ❖ How does being generous with your wealth benefit you?
- ❖ Read the last part of the MAP.
- ❖ Which possessions do you have now that you don’t need or you have too much of? (books, clothes, money etc.) Can you think of someone else who does need them? Can you give some of your stuff to someone?
- ❖ Recount Happy’s story. Isn’t it amazing to know that there are people in India who are going to Heaven because you tithed?

APPLICATION: Pray for Happy. Also, pray that God will help you to love stuff less so you can give it away!