

“The Gospel According to Luke: Make Friends for Yourselves by Means of Unrighteous Wealth”
Luke 16:1-13

“The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. 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.’” (Luke 16:14-15). “Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.” (Luke 12:33)

- A clear command:
 - *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.” (Matthew 6:19-20)*
- Luke 16:1-13:
 - A manager/steward is one who manages another's wealth. He enjoys and uses the master's wealth for the profit of the master.
 - *“This man was wasting his (the master's) possessions.”*
 - Principles of Stewardship:
 - I own nothing. Everything I have has been given to me. *“What do you have that you did not receive?” (1 Corinthians 4:7)*
 - I no longer live for myself. *“That those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.” (2 Corinthians 5:15)*
 - Our main pursuit is the kingdom. *“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” (Matthew 6:33)*
 - As stewards we live to glorify our master, never ourselves. *“No servant can serve two masters.” (Luke 16:13)*
 - **What is shrewdness?** *The ability to find and pursue the most advantageous course of action, sometimes at the cost of moral compromise.*
 - *“The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness.”*
 - What is he commended for? *Thinking about the future in how he used his resources.*
 - Sons of the world: The sons of the world think about their future temporally.
 - Sons of light: They think about their future temporally and eternally.
- How to live for eternity:
 - We must change our minds and our behaviors to think and act like **stewards**, not as **owners**.
 - Personal **holiness** and **evangelism** of the lost must become high priorities.
 - We must pursue **contentment** and **simplicity**.

Announcements:

★**VOLUNTEERS:** We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Slides Team. If you have any questions about this or are interested in serving on this team, please see Elder Jake or Shanelle.

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship Lunch TODAY, immediately following the worship service.

EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us!

★**WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE/CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Andy's Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange/Christmas Party is NEXT Sunday, December 21st, at 5:30pm, at his house. Andy will be providing the main course for dinner (either turkey or ham). If you plan on attending, please bring a side dish or dessert to share with everyone. If you plan on participating in the White Elephant Gift Exchange, please bring one wrapped gift with a value of \$15. Plan on sticking around after the Gift Exchange to play games and fellowship with one another!

★**CHRISTMAS EVE EVE SERVICE:** Our Christmas Eve service will be on Christmas Eve Eve this year. Please plan on joining us for this service on Tuesday, December 23rd, at 6:30pm. There will be no Children's Ministry offered for this service. This is a great opportunity to invite unsaved friends and family to join you to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ proclaimed.

★*For all other announcements, please see the December Newsletter!*