

Multiplying Forever Friends (Luke 16:1-13)

Living in Light of the End – Part 3
Life Church St. Louis – January 11, 2015
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Colossians 3:1-2 (NIV) Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Acts 17:27 (NIV) God did this [created people] so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.

1. Learn to set _____

1A. _____ make us think

Luke 16:1-2 (NIV) Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'

1B. _____ are the most important

Luke 16:3-4 (NIV) "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg-- I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'

2. _____ others builds relationships

2A. Discover the _____ of others

Luke 16:5-7 (NIV) "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' "Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred.' "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'

2B. _____ the needs of others

Luke 16:8 (NIV) "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light.

3. Use _____ to make forever friends

Luke 16:9 (NIV) I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

3A. Be _____ with little & you'll be given more

Luke 16:10-12 (NIV) "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"

3B. Serve _____ with His money

Luke 16:13 (NIV) "No servant can serve two masters. 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 both God and Money."

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Study Guide

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Intro. Why is it important to set your hearts and minds on things above (Colossians 3:1-2)?

What criterion should you use to set your priorities in life?

What is the most important thing in life for each person (Acts 17:27)?

1A. What do you think are life's most important priorities?

1B. In what ways do difficulties in life often lead us to think about our priorities (Luke 16:1-2)?

1C. What did the dishonest manager get right about his priorities in life (Luke 16:3-4)?

1D. Why are your relationships with people second in importance only to your relationship with God as a priority?

2A. Why is it important to take the first step in building a friendship?

2B. What principle did the dishonest manager use to build relationships with people (Luke 16:5-7)?

2C. How are the people of this world more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than the people of light (Luke 16:8)?

2D. In what ways is our relationship with God like that of the manager toward his master?

3A. How can we use worldly wealth to multiply forever friends (Luke 16:9)?

3B. Why is how we handle money so important in how God blesses our lives (Luke 16:10-12)?

3C. Why is all your money God's money? How can you determine how God wants you to steward His money?

3D. Why is giving God's church a tithe (10%) of your income, the first step in using money to multiply forever friends?

3E. How can money become an idol in a person's life (Luke 16:13)?

3F. What priorities in your life should you adjust in light of Jesus' teaching in this parable?