

## MAIN POINT

*Loving Christ requires faithful stewardship of the resources He has entrusted to us.*

## INTRODUCTION

How did your parents teach you about money when you were a kid? What is one thing about money that you wish someone had taught you earlier?

Why is it important that we talk about money at church? Why do you think we don't do so very often?

Jesus talked about money in 16 of His 38 parables. In fact, He talked about money more than any other subject except the kingdom of God. He didn't do this because He is after people's money; He taught so much about money because He's after our hearts. The way we spend our money is a window into our hearts. Our spending shows us what we believe about God. Because everything we have is a gift from God, we must learn how to make the most of what we've been given.

## DISCUSSION

> READ LUKE 16:1-13 AND MATTHEW 6:19-24.

In Luke 16, what was the crisis of the money manager? What plan did he devise? Why did the rich man commend the manager (Luke 16:8)?

How would you define "shrewd"? When is shrewdness a negative quality? How is it a positive quality in this parable?

How does Jesus teach us to be like the dishonest manager? How are we to be different than the dishonest manager?

In what manner does the shrewd person look at their money? What does that have to do with saving?

What's the difference between having possessions and making them your treasure?

How can you tell if your money and possessions are becoming your treasure?

What do you have to believe to be true about God in order for you to spend your money like Jesus said in Matthew 6?

Jesus said similar things in Matthew 6:24 and Luke 16:13. Why do you think He chose money to be the other master, besides God, that people serve? Why didn't He choose something like power, sex, or even the devil?

Why are materialistic and godly values at odds? Is there a way to reconcile those values? Why or why not?

What are some ways we attempt to serve Jesus and money?

## APPLICATION

What is one thing you can do this week to help you chase money less and God more?