



“SHREWD FOR THE KINGDOM”

Series: “GUT CHECK PARABLES”, Part 3 of 3

Sunday, January 21, 2024, at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

Text: Luke 16:1-13

Big Idea: “Kingdom shrewdness” now in how we live and manage money will pay off big in the long run.

Luke 16:1-8a, 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.’ “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.’ “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.’ “The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly.

The choices we make NOW will have a big impact on our future!

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

I. LET KINGDOM VALUES SHAPE THE WAY WE MANAGE MONEY.

Proverbs 3:9-10, “Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.”

Malachi 3:10, “Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”

Matthew 23:23, “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cummin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.”

II. LEVERAGE OUR RELATIONAL CONNECTIONS WISELY FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT.

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III. LIVE EVERY MOMENT WITH THE END IN MIND.

Ephesians 5:15-16, “Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”