**Luke 16**

**Response to God’s Heart for Us: Be Scripturally Shrewd Stewards**

**February 24th, 2019**

1. **Be Shrewd Vs 1-9**

God’s children should be shrewd like unbelievers; although rather than using temporal wealth to indebt others to themselves, they shrewdly use it to make friends who will welcome them into heaven.

*In response to God’s retrieval, restoration and rejoicing over us as his children, we should shrewdly use temporal wealth to make friends who will welcome us into God’s home.*

1. **Be Stewards Vs 10-13**

Although God’s children cannot serve God and worldly wealth, they use wealth to serve God by stewarding it to fulfill his saving purposes, readying themselves for stewarding true heavenly wealth.

*God’s children, who faithfully steward the worldly wealth they are allotted to serve God’s saving purposes, are rewarded with a stewardship of true heavenly wealth.*

1. **Be Scriptural Vs 14-31**

By not interpreting Scriptures in light of Jesus’ fulfilling saving ministry’s focus on love, Pharisees blindly justified their despicable consumption of wealth intended for the poor, destining themselves to hell.

*Interpret and apply Scripture in light of the Lord Jesus’ fulfilling saving ministry and his focus on ‘love your neighbour’ and you are sure to be a shrewd steward*.

**Summary**

**Respond to God’s retrieval, restoration, and rejoicing over you; become shrewd stewards guided by the Scriptures interpreted through the lens of Jesus’ fulfilling ministry and focus on ‘love your neighbour.’**

**Questions**

1. What are some examples of shrewd/wise no-strings-attached giving that can become a bridge for the Gospel?
2. What would be some examples of distribution of wealth that are unlikely to become a bridge for the Gospel?
3. Besides material wealth, what other things could be considered earthly wealth that God has allotted us that we need to steward properly (fulfill his saving purposes) before we are granted a stewardship over true or heavenly wealth?
4. What things would qualify as true or heavenly wealth that the faithful stewards of earthly wealth are granted stewardship of?
5. Why would God be hesitant to allot stewardship for true wealth to children who are unfaithful with their stewardship of earthly wealth?
6. What could be some signs that money is ruling someone?

**Assignment**

* Make an inventory of all you possess, both the material and immaterial.
* Surrender everything on that inventory to the Master, for they are his.
* Seek the Master’s will concerning how to shrewdly fulfill your stewardship from Scriptures.
* Proverbs is a good place to start as it imparts wisdom on a full range of subject matter.
* For marriage, family and work you may wish to read Ephesians 5:2-6:9; 1st Peter 2:13-3:7.
* For Church family/ministry/ dealing with enemies and those outside of the faith see 1st John 3:16-18; Romans 12:1-8.

If you need help in understanding or finding the appropriate Scriptures, ask someone more familiar with the Scriptures for help. Also our church library has many resources that are helpful.