

ULC Sermon Study Resource
The Gospel of Luke // Jesus Confronts
Pastor Marcus Lane
July 25th, 2021

Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: What sport would you compete in if you were in the Olympics?

Reading: Luke 16:1-17

Outline:

- I. Make Friends (v. 1-9)
 - a. The manager recognizes the urgency of the situation and makes friends by reducing debts.
 - b. Jesus invites us to use what we have to honor God and love our neighbor, so that when material goods have fallen away, we will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.
Q: Is the master upset when the manager reduces these debts?
- II. Choose Your Master (v. 10-13)
 - a. Jesus says that how we handle money reflects a deeper spiritual reality. It is indicative of how we would handle true spiritual riches.
 - b. We cannot serve two masters, and only in Jesus do we find a master that delivers on His promises.
Q: How will a person who is faithful with very little act when entrusted with a lot?
- III. A Better Kind of Wealth (v. 14-17)
 - a. Jesus is concerned with what is directing the course of our lives, not about how much or how little we have.
 - b. We must seek the immeasurable riches of grace that have been won for us through Jesus.
Q: Why do the Pharisees ridicule Jesus in these verses?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) How can you use what you have to honor God and make friends?
- 2) What does it mean to you when Jesus says we cannot serve two masters? Have you ever struggled with this?
- 3) Have you ever found yourself falling into the temptation of novelty, where you continue to progress from one product to the next?
- 4) Is your heart set on the only riches that can truly last?

Suggestions for further study:

- Ephesians 2:4-7 **Q: How does God make His riches and wealth known to us?**
- John 1:16-17 **Q: How have the immeasurable riches of grace been given to us?**
- Matthew 6:19-21 **Q: How does v. 21 relate to our discussion about choosing your master?**

Closing Prayer: Gracious God, it is far too easy to set our hearts on the wrong things. It is too easy for us to love that which is passing away and to obsess over that which will not last. God, we ask that you would open our ears to hear about your riches that have been won through Jesus. Remind us that your grace offers us something worth so much more than what the world can offer. Pour out your Spirit, that we might be reflections of your grace in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.