



IT'S COMPLICATED (Part 2) - "What Money Reveals About Us"

Luke 16:8-13 NIV

8 *"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. 9 I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.*

10 *"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. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? 12 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"*

13 *"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."*

Key Points

- Money isn't just currency; it's a window into the depths of our souls. It has an uncanny ability to expose the very core of who we are.
- Money unveils the condition of our hearts in a tangible way. It exposes our fears, our insecurities, and our trust issues.
- Our financial habits showcase our need for control and the depth of our faith and trust in God.
- Financial congruence enables us to experience the freedom to steward our money in ways that contribute to and create things that honor God, reflect His image, and demonstrate His love.
- Generativity is the capacity for our generosity to create something beyond what was given.
- The economic model of God's Kingdom is based on trust, and we need to be molded into trustworthy individuals who can participate in such a system.
- The economics of God's Kingdom are meant to be generative, empowering one another to cooperate and contribute as we trust and offer ourselves.
- Whether we possess a lot or a little, we must be faithful with what we have. It begins with being faithful in the small things.

READ

Open your time together by reading the Scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- **Read Luke 6:8-13. Jesus praises the shrewd manager for his prudence. How can we apply this concept of using worldly resources wisely to further the Kingdom of God in our own lives?**
- **Luke 16:13 tells us that we cannot serve both God and money. How can we evaluate our lives and ensure that our priorities align with our commitment to serving God rather than being consumed by material wealth or possessions?**
- **In what ways does this passage speak to being faithful with the small things?**

REFLECT

- **How has money revealed aspects of your character or inner self that you might not have been aware of before?**
- **Can you identify specific fears or insecurities that your relationship with money has brought to the surface?**
- **In what ways do your financial habits reflect your need for control in various aspects of your life?**

RESPOND

- **Regardless of your current financial situation, can you think of ways to be more faithful with what you have in your everyday life?**
- **Are there specific areas in your life where you struggle with being faithful in small things? How can you work on improving in those areas?**
- **What steps can you take to align your financial goals with your values and faith more effectively?**

PRAY

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests collectively or by breaking into prayer partners.