

# REinvest

## Sermon by Todd Lester

October 18, 2015

Parable of Shrewd Manager: [Luke 16:1-15](#)

### WHAT NOT TO DO WITH MONEY

[Romans 12:2](#) (NIV)

1. **DON'T** \_\_\_\_\_ **IT**  
[Luke 16:1](#)

2. **DON'T** \_\_\_\_\_ **IT**  
[Luke 16:13](#)

3. **DON'T** \_\_\_\_\_ **IT**  
[Luke 16:3](#), [Proverbs 23:5](#)

4. **DON'T EXPECT IT TO** \_\_\_\_\_  
[Ecclesiastes 5:10](#), [Luke 12:15](#)

### WHAT TO REMEMBER EVERY DAY

1. **THAT IT ALL** \_\_\_\_\_  
[Luke 16:1](#)  
"What I think I \_\_\_\_\_ is just a \_\_\_\_\_."

2. **GOD IS USING MONEY TO** \_\_\_\_\_  
[Matthew 6:19-21](#), [Proverbs 11:28](#), [Luke 16:11](#)

3. **MONEY IS A** \_\_\_\_\_  
[1 Timothy 6:10](#), [Luke 16:9a](#), [Luke 16:3-4](#), [Proverbs 14:8](#) (LB)

4. **THE BEST USE OF MONEY IS TO** \_\_\_\_\_  
[Luke 16:9](#)  
"Use your financial \_\_\_\_\_ for spiritual \_\_\_\_\_."

5. **ONE DAY I WILL GIVE AN** \_\_\_\_\_  
[Luke 16:2](#), [Romans 14:12](#)

6. **IF I AM FAITHFUL WITH A** \_\_\_\_\_, **GOD WILL TRUST ME WITH** \_\_\_\_\_  
[Luke 16:10](#), [Matthew 25:29](#)  
\_\_\_\_\_ in little ways produces \_\_\_\_\_ in big ways.

# Funny Money

How would you describe your financial habits? Each of us deals with our money differently. Your group might benefit from a discussion about these issues. Look over the different descriptions below and choose the one that best describes your approach to money and finances. Then take turns sharing your answers with the group.



#### Pair of Dice

I enjoy the excitement of risky financial decisions.



#### Tight-lipped Clam

No one's ever going to get their hands on my pearl, uh, money.



#### Carrot On a Stick

I like to use money to get people to do what I want.



#### Microscope

I watch every penny. I know where all my money goes.



#### Shop-a-holic

I think that the best use of my money is to buy things with it.



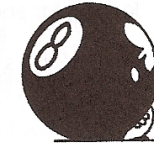
#### Under the Rug

I sweep money issues under the rug. Out of sight, out of mind!



#### Bulls and Bears

I'm a stock market junkie. I like Wall Street more than my bank.



#### 8-Ball

I'm in so much debt that I feel like I'm hiding behind the eight ball.



#### King Midas

Making money is my greatest passion, even if there's a cost.



#### Leaky Bucket

No matter how much I try to save, it all seems to disappear.



#### Happy Hermit

I've found that I'm happier without money and all it brings.



#### Cashier

I control how the money is dispersed and spent at my house.

# RE-INVEST

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## Icebreaker/Introduction

The 'Funny Money' activity is a simple way for your group to get talking about attitudes toward finances.

Additional/related questions: **How much time do you spend thinking about money? Is it true that 'money makes the world go around'?**

Ask if there was anything from this week's message that stood out – either a point that was made that really resonated with them, or perhaps a question or difficulty that came up for them.

## Read Luke 16:1-15

Pastor Todd said that this is one of the most confusing and misunderstood stories. Do you agree? What do you find challenging about it? (example: making a clever crook the protagonist) Does this story illustrate how shockingly graceful Jesus could be about rule-keeping?

## WHAT NOT TO DO WITH MONEY [Romans 12:2 (NIV)] SEVEN SPIRITUAL HABITS THAT REDUCE STRESS – PSALM 23

### 1. DON'T WASTE IT

Focuses on [Luke 16:1](#)

What are some ways that people 'waste' money?

### 2. DON'T LOVE IT

Focuses on [Luke 16:3](#)

Todd said we can't have two "number 1's". Is there a way to 'balance' our loyalties, or is it all or nothing?

### 3. DON'T TRUST IT

Focuses on [Luke 16:3](#), [Proverbs 23:5](#)

What are some things that people put their security in? (ex. appearance, job, bank account)

### 4. DON'T EXPECT IT TO SATISFY

Focuses on [Ecclesiastes 5:10](#), [Luke 12:15](#)

Why do people connect their self-worth to their net worth?

## WHAT TO REMEMBER EVERY DAY

### 1. THAT IT ALL BELONGS TO GOD

Focuses on [Luke 16:1](#)

"What I think I own is just a loan."

How can remembering that everything is a gift from God be helpful? (eg. decreases stress and worry, increases gratefulness)

Can you recall the things Pastor Todd suggested we examine to see how well we are taking care of them? ("how well are you taking care of God's property, your time and opportunities, your mind, your talents?)

### 2. GOD IS USING MONEY TO TEST ME

Focuses on [Matthew 6:19-21](#), [Proverbs 11:28](#), [Luke 16:11](#)

Does your bank account show what you love? (as Pastor Todd asked) Is that a fair question?

Explain the phrase: 'there is a direct connection between maturity and money'

### 3. MONEY IS A TOOL

Focuses on [1 Timothy 6:10](#), [Luke 16:9a](#), [Luke 16:3-4](#), [Proverbs 14:8](#) (LB)

Pastor Todd suggested that it is wise to use our money/resources to save time. What would be some good example of that?

It was pointed out that money can be used for good or bad – give examples for each.

Can you remember the 2 things that Todd pointed out the shrewd manager did correctly? (1. Looked ahead 2. Made a plan) Do you do this with your resources?

### 4. THE BEST USE OF MONEY IS TO GET PEOPLE INTO HEAVEN

Focuses on [Luke 16:9](#)

"Use your financial affluence for spiritual influence."

Does it make you uncomfortable to think of using your money to 'make friends'?

In what ways can we use our resources to bring people closer to God?

### 5. ONE DAY I WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT TO GOD

Focuses on [Luke 16:2](#), [Romans 14:12](#)

Pastor Todd asked us to examine what we have done with what we've been given – our talents, relationships, opportunities, mind, creativity, context. Pick an area where you feel you have been faithful in how you have 'spent yourself.' What is an area where you could improve?

### 6. IF I AM FAITHFUL WITH A LITTLE, GOD WILL TRUST ME WITH MORE

Focuses on [Luke 16:10](#), [Matthew 25:29](#)

Faithfulness in little ways produces fruitfulness in big ways.

How do you reconcile verse 10 with the example given in the story? (that is, vs. 10 seems to condemn dishonesty yet the manager was in fact dishonest)

Pastor Todd said that this principle (ie. being faithful with little leads to more being given) works in every area of life (like talent, influence, time). Do you agree? (does it really work with time, for instance? If I give more time will I receive more?)

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Parable of Shrewd Manager: Luke 16:1-13

Luke 16:14-15 The Pharisees, who dearly loved their money, heard all this and scoffed at him. Then he said to them, “You like to appear righteous in public, but God knows your hearts. What this world honors is detestable in the sight of God.”

## **WHAT NOT TO DO WITH MONEY**

Romans 12:2 (NIV) Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

### **1. DON'T WASTE IT**

Luke 16:1 There was a certain rich man who had a manager handling his affairs. One day a report came that the manager was wasting his employer's money.

### **2. DON'T LOVE IT**

Luke 16:13 No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

### **3. DON'T TRUST IT**

Luke 16:3 The manager thought to himself, ‘Now what? My boss has fired me. I don't have the strength to dig ditches, and I'm too proud to beg.’

Proverbs 23:5 In the blink of an eye wealth disappears, for it will sprout wings and fly away like an eagle.

### **4. DON'T EXPECT IT TO SATISFY**

Ecclesiastes 5:10 Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness!

Luke 12:15 Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.

## **WHAT TO REMEMBER EVERY DAY**

### **1. THAT IT ALL BELONGS TO GOD**

Luke 16:1 There was a certain rich man who had a manager handling his affairs.

### **2. GOD IS USING MONEY TO TEST ME**

Matthew 6:19-21 Don't store up treasures here on earth... Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Proverbs 11:28 Trust in your money and down you go! But the godly flourish like leaves in spring.

Luke 16:11 And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?

### **3. MONEY IS A TOOL**

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.

Luke 16:9a Here's the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends.

Luke 16:3 The manager thought to himself, “Now what? My boss has fired me. I don't have the strength to dig ditches, and I'm too proud to beg.”

Proverbs 14:8 (LB) The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won't face facts.

Luke 16:4 I know how to ensure that I'll have plenty of friends who will give me a home when I am fired.

### **4. THE BEST USE OF MONEY IS TO GET PEOPLE INTO HEAVEN**

Luke 16:9 Here's the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your earthly possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.

### **5. ONE DAY I WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT TO GOD**

Luke 16:2 So the employer called him in and said, “What's this I hear about you? Get your report in order, because you are going to be fired.”

Romans 14:12 Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God.

### **6. IF I AM FAITHFUL WITH A LITTLE, GOD WILL TRUST ME WITH MORE**

Luke 16:10 If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities.

Matthew 25:29 To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.