

Money Talks

Week 1 Discussion Guide



Icebreaker

If your money could talk, what do you think it would say to you?

Read

Take turns reading Luke 16:1-13. (Optional: Have your group read the passage in two different versions. Then have the group retell the passage in their own words.)

Discuss

Jesus was not shy about money. Of His 35 parables, 16 dealt with money and possessions. That is nearly half. So when Jesus tells a story about a dishonest manager, He is not just telling a clever story. He is exposing that how we relate to resources reveals what we actually trust and value.

- **What stands out to you most about the manager's response when he finds out he is being fired? What does his thinking reveal about his character?**
- **The owner calls the manager a "dishonest rascal" but still admires his shrewdness. Why do you think Jesus includes that detail? What is He trying to highlight?**
- **In verse 8, Jesus draws a contrast between "children of the world" and "children of the light." What do you think that distinction means practically in how people handle money?**

In verse 9, Jesus makes a striking statement: use your worldly resources to benefit others, because your possessions will not last, but the people you invest in will. The question is not just what you do with money, it is what your money is doing for others.

- **Can you think of a time when someone's generosity toward you changed something? What did that generosity communicate beyond the money itself?**
- **Verse 10 says faithfulness in small things leads to faithfulness in large things. Where do you feel God might be asking you to be more faithful with what you already have right now?**
- **Money has been described this way: "It just makes you more of what you already are." Do you agree? What does that challenge you to think about?**

Jesus ends the passage with no wiggle room. You cannot serve two masters. This is not about whether money is evil. It is about who is on the throne. Serving money is not always loud or obvious. Sometimes it looks like anxiety, avoidance, or making decisions driven by fear rather than faith.

- **When you read verse 13, where do you feel the tension most honestly in your own life?**
- **Do you feel more pulled toward accumulating stuff or accumulating stories that will outlast you? What influences that pull most?**

Application

Close your time with this challenge for the week ahead:

- **Write down honestly what your money has been saying about your priorities lately. Be specific.**
- **Have one honest conversation with your spouse, a close friend, or a mentor about how you are managing what God has entrusted to you.**
- **Make one intentional, generous decision this week, no matter how small. Give toward something that outlasts you.**

Prayer

Spend time in prayer asking God to reveal where money has become a master. Pray for honesty, faithfulness, and a heart that chooses people over possessions.