

Minding the Business**June 3, 2012**

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

- In what ways does our culture pressure us to love or pursue money?
- Would you describe yourself as more of a tightwad or an impulse buyer? Are you more of a saver or spender?
- In what areas of your life are you experiencing financial bondage or tension?

With your Bible or YouVersion.com, read Luke 16:1-13

- How did the rich owner respond to the manager who was “wasting his possessions”?
- Why was the manager afraid to lose his job? What plan did the manager devise to secure his future? Why does the owner commend the manager (v. 8)? How does this apply to us today?
- What do you think Jesus meant when he said, “Use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourself”?

Read Matthew 25:14-30

The term “talent” was used as a unit of weight or coins,

but it can apply to anything God has given us; such as, our time, money and abilities.

- What do you think Jesus was teaching us through this story?
- What were the master’s expectations of his servants while he was away?
- How do you feel about the ways you are currently investing your life? What does it mean to you to be faithful in the little things?
- What are the rewards of investing in God’s kingdom? Who could benefit most from the gifts and abilities God has given you?

My Next Step Today Is To . . .

- Turn my life over to Jesus, finding freedom that will impact every area of my life.
- Write down my (our) vision for life.
- Pray this week (and throughout this message series) about how I manage money.
- Meditate on and/or memorize Proverbs 22:7

Talk It Over with God:

These prayer tips can guide your time alone with God each day. Praying with a friend or a small group might help you stick to it.

- Spend some time this week talking to God about your financial vision. Write down short term and long term goals. If married, do this together.
- Ask God to show you what he could do with your life if debt wasn’t an issue?
- Commit your financial life to God asking him to help you go from seeing yourself as an “owner” to see yourself as a “manager”.