



The Gospel of Luke

*“So That You May Know the Certainty of
the Things You Have Been Taught”*

Group Discussion

Reflecting on the Parable of the Shrewd Manager from last week, consider together:

- The manager is commended for knowing where his salvation lay, not for his dishonesty.
- The manager's behavior is very similar to prodigal son throwing himself on the mercy of his father and finding extraordinary grace.
- "God (the master) is a God of judgment and mercy. Because of his evil, man (the steward) is caught in the crisis of the coming of the kingdom. Excuses will avail the steward nothing. Man's only option is to entrust everything to the unfailing mercy of his generous master who, he can be confident, will accept to pay the price for man's salvation. This clever rascal was wise enough to place his total trust in the quality of mercy experienced at the beginning of the story. That trust was vindicated. Disciples need that kind of wisdom."

-Ken Bailey, Poet and Peasant

Luke 16:9-31 (NIV)

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.”

14 The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. **15** He said to them, “You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God’s sight.”

16 “The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing their way into it. **17** It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the least stroke of a pen to drop out of the Law.”

18 “Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery, and the man who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”

did you know that GOD tests our
faith through

DOLLARS ???

Here's the verse..

"if you havent been trust worthy
in handling worldly  wealth..
who will trust you with true
riches" **Luke 16:11**

Here's the Lesson..

to Live by **Faith**, i must learn
to give **generously**

19 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. 20 At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores

21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. 24 So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

25 "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

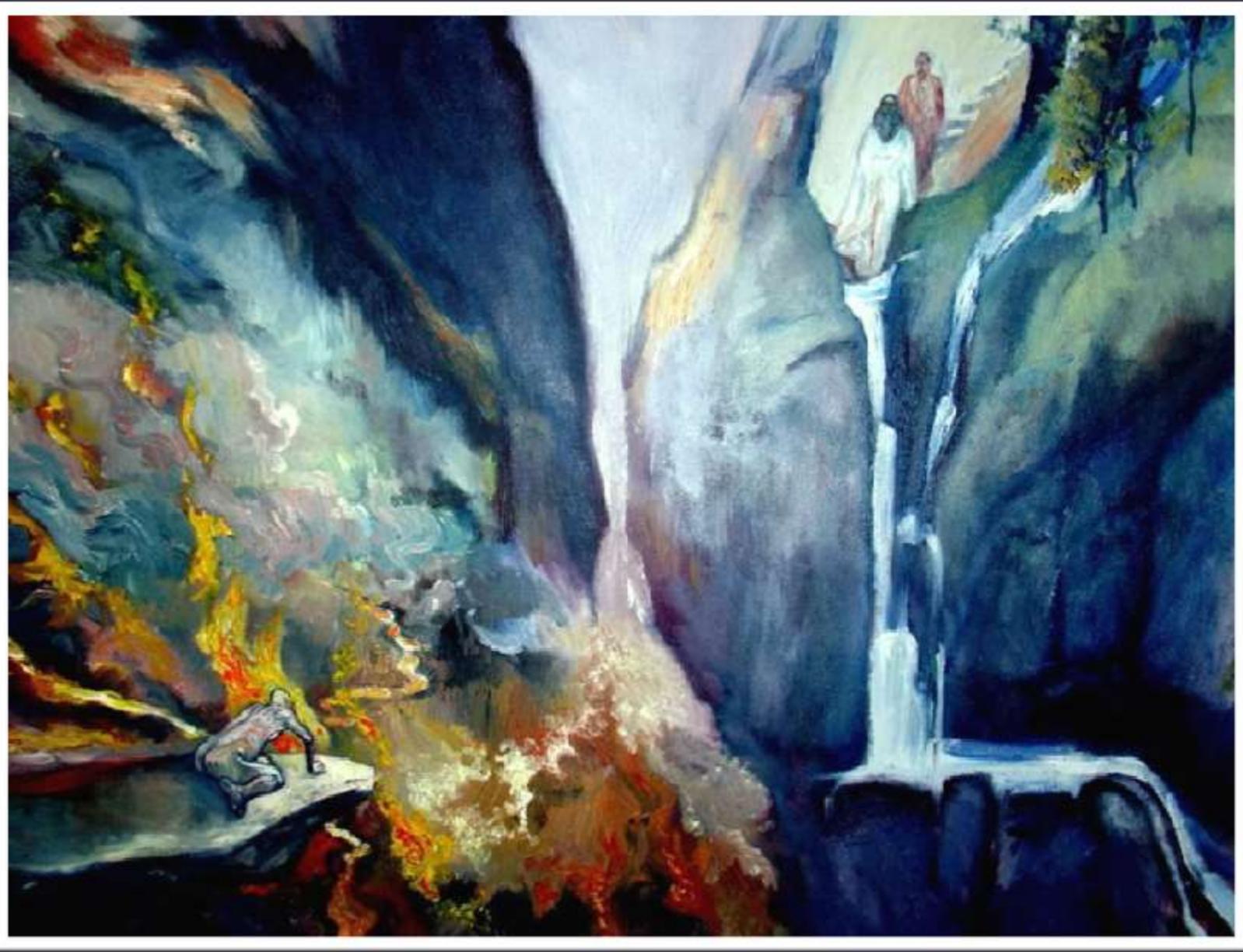
27 "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family,

28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

29 "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

30 " 'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

31 "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "



Luke 16:9-31 (The Message)

9 I want you to be smart in the same way - but for what is right - using every adversity to stimulate you to creative survival, to concentrate your attention on the bare essentials, so you'll live, really live, and not complacently just get by on good behavior."

10 Jesus went on to make these comments: If you're honest in small things, you'll be honest in big things; **11** If you're a crook in small things, you'll be a crook in big things. **12** If you're not honest in small jobs, who will put you in charge of the store?

13 No worker can serve two bosses: He'll either hate the first and love the second Or adore the first and despise the second. You can't serve both God and the Bank.

14 When the Pharisees, a money-obsessed bunch, heard him say these things, they rolled their eyes, dismissing him as hopelessly out of touch. **15** So Jesus spoke to them: "You are masters at making yourselves look good in front of others, but God knows what's behind the appearance. What society sees and calls monumental, God sees through and calls monstrous.

16 God's Law and the Prophets climaxed in John; Now it's all kingdom of God - the glad news and compelling invitation to every man and woman. **17** The sky will disintegrate and the earth dissolve before a single letter of God's Law wears out.

18 Using the legalities of divorce as a cover for lust is adultery; Using the legalities of marriage as a cover for lust is adultery.

19 "There once was a rich man, expensively dressed in the latest fashions, wasting his days in conspicuous consumption. 20 A poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, had been dumped on his doorstep. 21 All he lived for was to get a meal from scraps off the rich man's table. His best friends were the dogs who came and licked his sores.

22 "Then he died, this poor man, and was taken up by the angels to the lap of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In hell and in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham in the distance and Lazarus in his lap. 24 He called out, 'Father Abraham, mercy! Have mercy! Send Lazarus to dip his finger in water to cool my tongue. I'm in agony in this fire.'

25 "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that in your lifetime you got the good things and Lazarus the bad things. It's not like that here. Here he's consoled and you're tormented. 26 Besides, in all these matters there is a huge chasm set between us so that no one can go from us to you even if he wanted to, nor can anyone cross over from you to us.'

27 "The rich man said, 'Then let me ask you, Father: Send him to the house of my father 28 where I have five brothers, so he can tell them the score and warn them so they won't end up here in this place of torment.'

29 "Abraham answered, 'They have Moses and the Prophets to tell them the score. Let them listen to them.'

30 "'I know, Father Abraham,' he said, 'but they're not listening. If someone came back to them from the dead, they would change their ways.'

31 "Abraham replied, 'If they won't listen to Moses and the Prophets, they're not going to be convinced by someone who rises from the dead.'"

Luke 15 and 16- “What’s Valuable in the Kingdom?”

Context for Luke 15-16 is in Luke 15:1-3:

“1 Now the **tax collectors and sinners** were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But **the Pharisees and the teachers of the law** muttered, ‘This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ 3 Then Jesus told them [the parable of the lost sheep . . .]”

- Jesus is eating a meal with “tax collectors and sinners”
- Pharisees and teachers of the law, also present, find this highly unacceptable because of the Jewish/Middle Eastern concept of hospitality; leads to them muttering “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”
 - A host confers his own honor on his guests, so by eating with “tax collectors and sinners,” Jesus is conferring His honor on unclean, unworthy outsiders)
- Given this context, Luke 15-16 is Jesus’ emphatic response to the Pharisees’ and teachers of the law’s accusation that He’s associating with the “wrong” people

- Yancey coined the phrase “scandalous mathematics of grace”
- In all 5 parables, Jesus uses the theme of grace/wastefulness to describe what is valuable in the Kingdom
- Jesus is once again defining the “New Community” of the Kingdom

Parable	Concept of Value
Lost Sheep	Attention “wasted” on 1 lost vs. 99
Lost Coin	Attention “wasted” on 1 lost vs. 9
Lost Son/Prodigal Father	Attention “wasted” on 1 lost
Shrewd Manager	Shrewdness = wasting assets (here “wasting” = leveraging)
Rich Man and Lazarus	Negative example of useless “waste”

What's Next

- Begin summer Sunday School Classes next week
- We will resume Luke in September!