

**I. Read Luke 16:1-13**

- A. In verses 1-8, Jesus uses the example of a dishonest administrator (the unrighteous steward) of a large estate as a means of exhorting believers to use God's resources wisely in furthering the kingdom of God. Commenting on the steward's approach, The New Geneva Study Bible explains:

“With the original bills destroyed, the owner was in an awkward position. It would be difficult to establish his claim to the full amount, which included the interest. His praise of the shrewdness of his steward was recognition that he had been outwitted. Jesus uses the parable to illustrate that worldly people often use what they have to further their own worldly ends more wisely than the people of the light do to further the quite different one of God's Kingdom.”

- B. With the above comments in mind, what point or lesson do you think Jesus was trying to get across to His disciples?
- C. In verse 10, Jesus expresses a very fundamental principle. What is it?
- D. How can this principle be applied in an individual believer's walk with Christ?
- E. How can the principle be applied in the life of the church?
- F. In verse 11, Jesus contrasts the treasures of this world with the true and eternal treasures of heaven.
- G. What are some of those heavenly treasures?

- H. In verse 12, Jesus makes a logical case that those unfaithful with riches entrusted to them are not fit to receive more. What point is He getting at?
  
- I. In verse 13, Jesus makes another logical case with the intent of forcing us to make a choice on what the direction and purpose of our lives will be. What is the choice?
  
- J. Read 1 Kings 18:20-21 and compare the prophet Elijah's words with those of Jesus in Luke 16:13.
  
- K. Can you think of any instances in your life when you have been especially aware that you were faced with the kind of choice described in 1 Kings 18 and Luke 16:13?