

5. When you have experienced some incremental growth as a steward of God's stuff, what factor(s) was most significant?

6. You can find the complete story by Steve Saint here: http://itecusa.org/document_ends_of_the_earth.html. Or search Google for "Steve Saint to the ends of the earth." Why would you say Steve's father and the young man named Nouh Ag Infa Yatara were willing to lay down their lives for God and his mission?

7. What's next in your quest to settle the ownership and treasure issues in your life?

8. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

SERIES: Journey to Easter

SERMON 4: "Shrewd"

TEXT: Luke 16:1-9

DATE: March 5/6, 2016

"So I have a message for my fellow plutocrats and zillionaires and for anyone who lives in a gated bubble world—wake up. Wake up. It cannot last because if we do not do something to fix the glaring economic inequities in our society, the pitchforks will come for us.... It's not a matter of if; it's when." (Nick Hanauer)

Being Smart with your Money

1. Settle the _____ issue.

Who really _____ my stuff?

Luke 16: ⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness.

Who does something like this?

Matthew 20:1-16

Matthew 18:21-35

Luke 10:25-37

What did the manager do that was so shrewd? He made new friends by what he did with _____ money!

Who does something like this? _____ does!

God says, "There will be people in heaven who will welcome you into your eternal dwellings because of your investments with _____ money."

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Luke 10:25-37

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

2. Settle the _____ issue.

What is really most _____ to you?

W_____ do you really treasure?

Luke 19: ¹⁰ "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Jesus left heaven to suffer and die for people who are lost. People who could care less about God.

Luke 15: ⁷ "Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance." All of heaven rejoices when you and your investments bring even one person into heaven.

Mark 1: ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." He calls all of his followers to join him in his mission to seek and save the lost.

"For God so loved the world that he gave."

Jesus is saying, "That's a smart way to use _____ money, when you actually believe life is eternal and when _____ matter to you like they matter to God."

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. What specifically is the master (and, by implication, Jesus) commending in the dishonest manager (i.e., in what way does he display shrewdness)?
3. What is Jesus' indictment of God's people (i.e., "the sons of light") in verse 8?
4. It's not easy to live and invest in light of eternity. Why is this?