

"Pink Slips and Promotions"

Luke 16:1-13

The Bernard Madoff of Galilee:

Guilty of mismanagement
Capable of fraud
Brought into account

Unexpected commendations:

Understood the seriousness his situation
Used his resources to influence others
Made shrewd business decisions

We live in a world where money is king.

It dominates our lives
It demands our attention
It affects our security

Jesus' principles of the stewardship of money:

Recognize the necessity of stewardship

What we have belongs to God
We have been entrusted with wealth

Practice being a prudent manager

Our money should be used wisely
Being good at business is expected

Use resources to build relationships

Generosity is a part of our nature
Treasures stored up in heaven endure

Make being a person of integrity primary

Our reputation is on the line
Our eternal reward is what matters

Serve the only master that is worthy

Refuse to serve money by using God
Discover how to serve God by using money

What would happen if God audited your books today?

Would you be given a "pink slip"?
Or would you be offered a "promotion"?

16:1 Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. 2 So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'

3 "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg- 4 I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'

5 "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

6 "'Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied.

"The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred.'

7 "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?'

"'A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied.

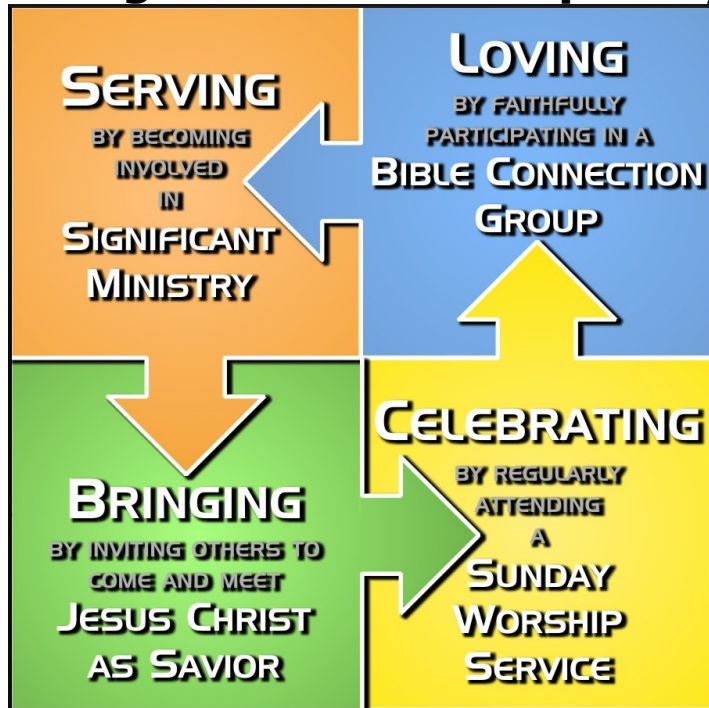
"He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'

8 "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. 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 servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

Making Christ-Like Disciples by:



Sermon Notes

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