

# Walking with Jesus: Faithful with What You Have

Luke 16:1-13

## Introduction: Thinking Long-Term

- We plan for the future with finances (retirement, investments, apps).
- Jesus says: thirty years is nothing compared to eternity.
- **Big Idea:** Walking with Jesus means treating everything as God's and using it for His Kingdom.

## Exposition of the Text

### vv. 1-8 – The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

- The *οἰκονόμος* (manager/steward) wasted (*διασκορπίζων*) his master's possessions.
- He reduced debts to secure a future welcome.
- Jesus is not commending dishonesty but decisive, urgent action.
- **Point:** If worldly people prepare for a short future, how much more should disciples prepare for eternity?

### v. 9 – Friends with Unrighteous Wealth

- “Unrighteous wealth” = money tied to this fallen world.
- Wealth tests our hearts; it will fail.
- Use temporary money to serve eternal purposes (gospel, people, mercy).
- Picture: being greeted in eternity by someone blessed through your generosity.

### vv. 10-12 – Faithful in Little, Faithful in Much

- “Very little” = money, the smallest test.
- Faithfulness in small things shows readiness for “true riches.”
- Stewardship is about habits and patterns, not amounts.
- Daily practices with budgets, time, possessions shape our souls.

### v. 13 – Two Masters

- “Serve” (*δουλεύειν*) = total allegiance.
- Money is not neutral; it can be a rival god.

- You cannot split loyalty, eventually you'll serve one or the other.
- **Question:** Mammon or the Messiah? Which master will you serve?

## Three Lessons for the Road of Discipleship

### 1. Be Shrewd for Eternity, Not Just Security

- The manager thought short-term; disciples must think eternal.
- Retirement planning is good, but resurrection planning is better.
- *Practical step:* Redirect one resource (time, talent, treasure) toward eternal impact this week.

### 2. Faithfulness in the Little Things Shapes a Kingdom Life

- God views money as a small test of faithfulness.
- Daily habits matter more than big gestures.
- The small habits you form today shape the disciple you'll be tomorrow.
- *Practical step:* Treat one "little thing" (lunch break, tipping, prayer before spending) as a discipleship moment.

### 3. You Can Only Have One Master

- Money demands loyalty; it wants to rule you.
- Jesus says it's impossible to serve both God and money.
- Money makes a cruel master, but Jesus makes a faithful one.
- *Practical step:* Do a "Mammon audit": review budget and calendar to see who's in charge.

## Lesson for the Road of Discipleship

Walking with Jesus means being faithful with what you have, treating everything as God's and using it for His Kingdom.

## Conclusion: Where's Your Allegiance?

- This is about loyalty: who do you trust?
- The manager acted shrewdly for a short future.
- Jesus calls us to act faithfully for an eternal one.
- Don't waste your life chasing Mammon, let God be your Master.
- Every dollar, decision, and act of generosity can become an investment in eternal joy.