

LESSON IN STEWARDSHIP

(01/04/2026; Luke 16:1-31; Craig Hurty; Christ Proclamation Church)

Sermon Theme: Jesus' followers are called to be faithful stewards over God's resources, using them in service to God. But we're easily led astray by the love of money. Jesus teaches us how to follow him with devotion and provides a path that transforms us into people who love others and love God above all.

I. Perplexing Example – Read Luke 16:1-8

- A. What does the manager understand about his situation and what does he do about it? As you think about it, what is perplexing about the master's response?

- B. Why did the master commend the manager? Why does the word "shrewd" provide a provocative, but helpful description of his actions?

- C. How can Jesus's followers be shrewd stewards of God's resources? How can Jesus commend this type of behavior?

II. Surprising Implications – Read Luke 16:9-18

- A. Observe how each of the statements in verses 9-18 relate to money. Can you briefly describe the connection back to the parable of the dishonest manager?

- B. What kind of progression do you see in these statements? Do you think there's an order to it?

- C. Why are our relationships, faithfulness, commitment, attitude, obedience, and loyalty all tested by the love of money?

- D. How does trusting in Jesus by faith and walking according to His Spirit help prepare us for the true wealth that we will someday receive in God's eternal kingdom?

III. Unexpected Reversal – Read Luke 16:19-31

- A. What is significant about the reversal in this story? How might it have ended differently?

- B. As you evaluate your own heart, what challenges you about Jesus' question in Luke 12:42 "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time?"

- C. How should the gospel influence your daily interactions with people and the use of money? In what way should there be a sense of urgency?