



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of April 23, 2023

Sermon Text Luke 16:1-13

[1] He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. [2] And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ [3] And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. [4] I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ [5] So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ [6] He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ [7] Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ [8] The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. [9] And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. [10] “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. [11] If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? [12] And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? [13] No servant can serve two masters, for 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 God and money.”

If you were not able to listen to this week’s sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiikaichurch.org/sermons/page/1>.

Discussion Questions

1. When Jesus uses the parable of a dishonest manager to teach his disciples about the use of money, is He promoting selfishness and dishonesty? What did the dishonest manager realize about his present situation and his future needs that made his actions “commendable”?
2. What do you think Jesus meant when He said, “*For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light.*” Was He praising the *sons of light* (Christians) or chastising them? Why does it seem that Jesus wants His followers to be “shrewd”?
3. There are three things the dishonest manager understood:
 1. My time is limited
 2. The money I control is not mine to keep

3. I need to maximize my opportunity now to maximize my happiness later

Why must Christians live according to the same understanding and how does this impact the way we use our money?

4. Is being wealthy a sin? How would a person know when money has become “sinful” for them? Describe what that might look like.
5. What do you think Jesus meant when He said, “*One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.*” Why is it impossible to love and serve both God and money?