
KINGDOM ECONOMICS

Week 2: Investing or Squandering?



We are one month into the new year. Christmas bills are due. Monthly expenses have gone up. The neighbors bought a new car. Your friends bought the latest gadget. They seem to have it all and you wonder why you can't ever have enough. There was a Father and two sons who had the same struggle...

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If Jesus asked you to give all of your money away to the poor, would you do it?
2. **Read Luke 18:18-30.**

Notice the words that the ruler asks Jesus in 18:18. How might "inherit" foreshadow the struggle of the Rich Young Ruler in the passage?

3. What is Jesus' reply to the ruler's question in 18:18? Why would the commandments be important for one to inherit eternal life? How does the ruler's steadfast obedience to keep the commandments mirror the older brother's behavior from our teaching this past Sunday in Luke 15:25-32?
4. **Re-read Luke 15:22-25.** Jesus gets to the heart of the ruler's condition that keeps him from eternal life - his wealth. Why does the ruler's wealth get in the way of his inheriting eternal life? Considering the Scriptures speak to us today, picture Jesus saying these words to you, and whether or not your wealth gets in the way of you inheriting eternal life. Discuss.
5. **Read Genesis 14:19-20. Read Proverbs 3:9-10. Read 1 Timothy 5:17-18.**

Considering the passages above, and what Jesus has said about the rich ruler giving all he had to the poor, how do the Scriptures challenge us to be faithful stewards?

6. What progress have you made on the stewardship goal you have set? Having considered your own stewardship, how will the group encourage, hold accountable, and pray for one another, considering personal stewardship/investing in the Church/being generous with others in need?

BE THE REVOLUTION

How we view our stewardship - as an investment, or as squandering our wealth - affects the condition of our lives and our ability to follow Jesus.

RENOVATING THE HEART

Sell everything you have and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me (*Luke 18:22*).