

## “Loaners Not Owners!”

Part 2

### “Little Things Mean A Lot”

*“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.” Luke 16:10 NLT*

#### A. God’s call is always to faithfulness...

*“If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones.” Luke 16:10a*

1. Faithfulness does not depend on the amount you have, but rather your attitude.

*“If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities.” Luke 16:10*

2. Faithfulness in financial wealth is a test as to how one would deal with true riches.

*“And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?” Luke 16:11*

3. Faithfulness is never forgetting that we are only loaners to all that belongs to God.

*“And if you are not faithful with other people’s things, why should you be trusted with things of your own?” Luke 16:12*

All I have is His...

I am the loaner, He is the Owner!

#### B. Money is symptomatic of bigger issues...

*“No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.” Luke 16:13*

1. The root of money is mammon. Mammon was an Assyrian god with a prideful arrogant spirit that said, “We don’t need God!”  
*“You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”*

2. Money talks and it makes promises. Money promises security, significance, freedom, power, independence, love, etc.

*“You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”*

3. Money will cause us to choose. If you don’t choose God, you have already chosen!

*“You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.”*

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#### C. Use money, don’t let money use you...

*“For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.”*

*1 Timothy 6:10*

1. Trust is a building process in all areas of our lives.

*“If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones.” Luke 16:10a*

2. Where is your treasure?

*“Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.” Matthew 6:19-21*

3. Where is your heart?

*“The Pharisees, who dearly loved their money, heard all this and scoffed at him. Then he said to them, ‘You like to appear righteous in public, but God knows your hearts. What this world honors is detestable in the sight of God.’”*

*Luke 16:14-15*

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*Tim Keller, pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian in New York, in his book Counterfeit Gods, gives four questions to ask about your money:*

#### **Your Imagination**

*Archbishop William Temple once said, “Your religion is what you do with your solitude”. What he meant by that is what does your heart run to when it has a spare moment to think privately?*

#### **Your Checkbook**

*Author and finance teacher Ron Blue says, “A life story could be written from a checkbook. It reflects your goals, priorities, convictions, relationships, and even the use of your time. A person who has been a Christian for even a short while can fake prayer, Bible study, evangelism, going to church, and so on, but he can’t fake what his checkbook reveals.”*

#### **Your Functional Savior**

*I just recently did a post asking if money is your functional savior. I encourage you to check out that post. But, these folks view money or what it brings as what will save them from their misery and bring them ultimate joy! What is it that you are viewing as bringing you the ultimate happiness and joy?*

#### **Your Emotions**

*Anger, bitterness, fear, doubt, despair, guilt – are just a few emotions that we can rattle off here. Emotions aren’t wrong – they are good – in fact they help us express what we are feeling.*

*Have you ever thought about the emotions you have surrounding your money? Keller says that our most uncontrollable emotions reveal what kind of idols we have.*

*If you’re angry, ask yourself, “Is there something here too important to me that I must have at all costs?”*

*If you are fearful or despairing, ask yourself, “Am I scared because something I view as so important is being threatened that I think is a necessity when it is not?”*

*Ask, “Is this thing (promotion, money, etc.) so important to me that I must have it to feel fulfilled?”*

*Keller says, When you ask questions like that, when you “pull your emotions up by the roots as it were, you will often find your idols clinging to them.”*

#### **Coming next:**

**“Loaners Not Owners!”**

February 26: **Youth Sunday**

**“True Love Waits”**

March 5: **“Using or Losing”**

**Matthew 25:21**