

Stories: Old and New

Parables of Jesus for 21st century society

The parable of the 'streetwise' manager (part 7)

Read: Luke 16:1-15; Matt 13:34; Col. 4:12; Philem. 24; 2 Tim. 4:10.

1. Read Luke 15:1-15. How many rogues do we find in this story?
2. Why do many people have a problem with this parable? At face value, what does it appear that Jesus is endorsing or condoning? Was He?
3. Read v8. What sorts of things can 'people of the light' learn from 'people of this world'? What things have you learned from people who are not followers of Jesus but challenge the way you live your life? Who are your greatest non-Christian heroes in this regard, and why?
4. Read v9. Essentially, what does this mean? Why should our 'worldly wealth' have influence in the afterlife?
5. Apart from receiving a 'Well done, good and faithful servant!' from the lips of Jesus when you enter heaven, who else might welcome you and for what reason? *[NOTE: this question is not referring to family members or friends, but to those who have been touched by our generosity of spirit].*
6. Read v10. What is the 'little' and the 'much' in this verse referring to?
7. Billy Graham: "If a person gets his attitude to money straight then it helps to straighten out every other issue in his life." Thoughts?
8. Read v13. Why do you think that so many people try to do what Jesus says can't be done?
9. Read v14. How did the Pharisees react? How do you react when you read the words of Jesus in this parable?