

Sermon Discussion Guide September 28, 2025 Luke 16:1-3

1. Understanding 'Betting' in Life

- Question: The sermon begins with a discussion about betting, not just in sports but in our everyday decisions. Can you think of a decision you made recently that felt like a bet on yourself or on God? How did it turn out?
- Activity: Make a list of things that you and your family are currently hoping or striving for (e.g., school success, job promotions, personal goals) and discuss whether these are being pursued more through trust in God or self-reliance.

2. The True Source of Comfort, Security, and Approval

- Question: According to the sermon, what does God promise to provide us that we often seek through other means like money or achievements?
- Discussion: Talk about a time when chasing comfort, security, or approval through worldly means didn't satisfy. How could trusting God have changed your perspective or outcome?

3. Parable of the Shrewd Manager

- Question: Why is the manager in Jesus' parable considered shrewd, and what can we learn from his actions?
- Activity: Create a modern-day story that parallels this parable, illustrating the main lesson—choosing between serving God and serving money.

4. Serving Two Masters

- o Question: Why is it impossible to serve both God and money, according to Jesus?
- o **Discussion:** Reflect on the statement: "Either you are betting on God, or you are betting on yourself." What are practical ways we can ensure we are 'betting on God' in our daily lives?

5. The Role of Money

- o **Question:** How can money be used for God's purposes, and why is this important?
- o **Activity:** Brainstorm as a family ways to use money or resources to serve others and strengthen your relationship with God. Decide on one action to take as a family or individual this week.

6. Reflecting on Jesus

- Question: How did Jesus use what he had to serve God and gain friends for eternity?
- o **Discussion:** Consider the sacrifices Jesus made and how his actions demonstrate serving God over worldly gain. How does Jesus guarantee that I will never lose when I bet on God?

Closing Prayer: O God, you have told us not to be anxious about what we need for this life. Move our hearts to seek you and your kingdom, that all good things may be given to us as well; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.