

## **LIVING LARGE**

### **Making Sense – Part 1 of 3**

**KEY OBSERVATION:** Money can add meaning to your life, but it is not the **MEANING** of life.

*“1 Jesus told his disciples, ‘There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. 2 So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg. 4 I know what I’ll do so that when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’ 5 So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first one, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ 6 ‘Nine-hundred gallons of olive oil,’ he replied. The manager told him, ‘Take your bill and sit down quickly and make it out for four-hundred and fifty.’ 7 Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’ ‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied. He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight-hundred.’ 8 The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. ‘For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light.’” Luke 16:1-8*

**KEY TRUTH #1:** The money manager was commended for taking full advantage of his **LIMITED TIME** and his **LIMITED OPPORTUNITY**.

*“9 I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves. When it is gone you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.” Luke 16:9*

- **QUESTION #1:** How can I **LEVERAGE** more of what I have as a means to an end that’s not **ME**?

**KEY TRUTH #2:** We are going to **LIVE** on a percentage of our income. Why not choose it rather than letting a **LIFESTYLE** choose it for you?

- **QUESTION #2:** Do I want more **STUFF**, or do I want more **STORIES**?

**BOTTOM LINE:** Money can add meaning to your life when you use it as a means to an end that goes beyond **YOU**.

*“10 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. 11 If you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? Luke 16:10-11*

**KEY TRUTH #3:** Money is a **TEST** as well.

*“And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?” Luke 16:12*

- **QUESTION #3:** If you’re just a manager, not an owner, who are you **MANAGING IT FOR**?
- **QUESTION #4:** If being a means to an end is what gives life meaning, to what **ENDS** do I want my life to be a means?

*“The Pharisees who loved money heard all of this and were sneering at Jesus.” Luke 16:14*