

ASSUME TO CONSUME Hu\$ Money? – Part 1

ON TV: Have you ever thought what your **money might say to you** if your money could actually talk?

ON TV: The way that we handle or manage money is often a big indicator that there's something kind of wrong with us in the way we **view money**.

ON TV: "I can **add meaning** to your life, but I'm **not the meaning** of life."

ON TV: "I'm a much better **means** than I am an **end**."

ON TV: Being a means to an end is what makes anything **meaningful**.

ON BIG SCREEN: PICTURE OF SEGWAY

ON TV: When we **decide** to be a means to an end, **our money** become a means rather than an end as well.

ON TV/OUTLINE: "Therefore, since I myself have **carefully investigated** everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an **orderly account** for you..." Luke 1:3a

ON TV/OUTLINE: "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 manager any longer.' 3 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, 'How much do you owe my master?' 6 'Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly and make it four hundred.' 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.'" Luke 16:1-7

ON TV/OUTLINE: "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 16:8

ON TV: The money manager was commended for taking full advantage of his **limited time** and his **limited opportunity**.

ON TV: That when it comes to our money and our wealth and our income, we are to view it within the context not simply of this life, but the **larger context**.

ON TV: How do I get **maximum use out of my resources** in light of my little time on this planet with the little bit of opportunity that comes my way?

ON TV/OUTLINE: "I tell you, **use** worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that **when it is gone**, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings." Luke 16:9

ON TV: That our money and our possessions is a means to an end that **goes beyond us**, and it even **goes beyond this life**.

ON TV: It means that we should view **100%** of what we have as a potential means to an end.

ON TV: How can I **leverage more** of what I have as a means to an end **that's not me**?

ON TV: The reason you should decide ahead of time what percentage of your income you want to live on is because **you are going to live on a percentage of your income**.

ON TV: Do I want more **stuff**, or do I want more **stories**?

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

ON TV/OUTLINE: *“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 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, **who will trust you with true riches?**” Luke 16:10-11*

ON TV: That no matter how much you have, or where you think it ultimately came from, your money and your possessions is a **means to an end**, and a **tool** from the Kingdom of God’s perspective; but it’s also a **test**.

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

ON TV: *“I’ll still be here when you’re gone. And the moment you think you own me; **I actually own you.**”*

ON TV: If you’re just a manager, not an owner, **who are you managing it for?**

ON TV: What do we do with all this? Where do we start?

ON TV: If being a means to an end is what gives life meaning, **to what ends do you want your life to be a means?**

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