



August 9, 2026

Following Jesus With What You Have: A Guide to Faithful Stewardship

Day 1: Where Your Heart Lives

Reading: Matthew 6:19-24

Devotional: Jesus makes clear that our hearts follow our treasures. Whatever we pour our time, money, and attention into reveals what we truly value. This is not a guilt-driven observation -- it is an invitation. God is not after your bank account. He is on a radical pursuit of your heart. Before you spend, before you give, before you plan, ask yourself: what does this decision reveal about where my heart actually lives? True wealth is not measured in dollars but in the depth of your surrender to the One who owns everything.

Reflection: What does your spending from the past week reveal about what you treasure most?

Practical Application: Review your last month of purchases. Identify one area where your spending reflects a misaligned priority and make one intentional adjustment this week.

Day 2: The Danger of Loving What Cannot Save You

Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-12

Devotional: Paul does not say money is evil. He says the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. The distinction matters. Money is neutral. It is a tool. But when we begin to love it, trust it, and chase it as a source of security and identity, it becomes a god that cannot deliver. Paul urges Timothy -- and us -- to pursue godliness with contentment. Contentment is not passivity. It is the active, daily choice to trust that God is enough, that what He has given today is sufficient for today, and that true gain is found in Him alone.

Reflection: In what area of your life do you struggle most with contentment, and what does that struggle reveal about your trust in God?

Practical Application: Write down three specific blessings God has provided in your current season of life. Spend five minutes in prayer thanking Him for each one before asking Him for anything new.

Day 3: Faithful in Little, Trusted With Much

Reading: Luke 16:10-13

Devotional: Jesus teaches that the way we handle small responsibilities is a direct reflection of how we will handle greater ones. Faithfulness is not reserved for moments of abundance. It begins right now, with what is already in your hands. The manager in Jesus's parable was shrewd enough to plan ahead with what he had. How much more should followers of Jesus be intentional about using their resources -- no matter how modest -- for the advancement of God's kingdom? Every act of faithful stewardship, however small, is an act of worship that God sees and honors.

Reflection: Are you being faithful with what God has placed in your hands right now, or are you waiting for more before you begin giving generously?

Practical Application: Identify one small, practical act of generosity you can carry out this week -- whether financial, relational, or with your time -- and follow through without delay.

Day 4: Building What Lasts

Reading: Matthew 6:19-21; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

Devotional: Solomon had everything -- wealth, pleasure, land, and power beyond imagination. Yet he described it all as meaningless without God at the center. Thirty-eight times in Ecclesiastes, he returns to the same conclusion: what is built for self alone does not last. The invitation for us is not to avoid blessing but to redirect it. When we invest in God's kingdom -- through the local church, through generosity, through faithful giving -- we are building something that outlives us. No retirement account, no property value, no earthly achievement can match the eternal return on a life surrendered to kingdom purposes.

Reflection: What are you currently building, and will it outlive you in any eternal sense?

Practical Application: Have a conversation with a family member or close friend this week about what it would look like to make kingdom investment a consistent, intentional priority in your household.

Day 5: Freed From the Treadmill

Reading: Luke 12:15-21; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Devotional: Consumerism is a treadmill. You can log the miles, adjust the incline, and feel the effort -- but you never actually go anywhere. The rich man in Luke 12 built bigger barns, secured his future, and called his soul to rest. God called him a fool. Not because he had wealth, but because he lived as though this life were the only one that mattered. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 9 that God loves a cheerful giver -- one who gives not from obligation but from a heart that has been set free from the grip of self-reliance. Step off the treadmill. Give freely. Live generously. Let God have your heart completely.

Reflection: What would it look like for you to step off the treadmill of consumerism and begin walking in genuine, joyful generosity?

Practical Application: This week, make one giving decision that requires real trust -- something that stretches your faith rather than simply what is comfortable -- and give it as an act of worship, not duty.

Discussion Questions:

The sermon suggests that generosity is not only about financial giving but also about how we invest our time, attention, and presence in others -- in which of these areas do you find it most difficult to be genuinely generous, and what holds you back?

Matthew 6:21 teaches that where your treasure is, your heart will be also if someone examined your spending, your schedule, and your attention over the past month, what would they conclude that you truly treasure most?

The speaker closes by saying that when God has Godhood over our possessions, He truly has our heart -- what would it look like practically in your daily life to surrender full lordship of your finances and possessions to God this week?