



Core Values Part 2 - *Financial Commitment*

Message to Conversation Guide

Luke 20:9-18

9 He went on to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. 10 At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. 11 He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. 12 He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.

13 "Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.'

14 "But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. 'This is the heir,' they said. 'Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' 15 So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

"What then will the **owner** of the vineyard do to them? 16 He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others."

When the people heard this, they said, "May this never be!"

17 Jesus looked directly at them and asked, "Then what is the meaning of that which is written:

"'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone'?"

18 Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed." NIV

Discussion Questions

1. In the parable it seems that the man who planted the vineyard is rich. A couple of indicators in the story convey the wealth of the owner of the vineyard. First, he is a

landowner, secondly, he owned servants. Underline and count the number of servants featured in the story.

2. In the Parable the landowner is symbolic of God. The planter of the vineyard is rich. God is rich in mercy and grace. Identify the proof that God is rich in mercy and grace according to the verse below.

Ephesians 2:4-8

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. NIV

3. Discuss the statement below:

Key Statement # 1 God doesn't operate in the realm of the finite but in the realm of the infinite.

4. God is also rich in wisdom, discuss this concept from the verses below.

Rom 11:33

33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! NIV

5. God is not only rich in mercy, grace and wisdom but he is also rich in resources. How does the verse below underscore this principle?

Ps 50:12

12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it. NIV

Ps 50:10

10 For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. KJV

Ps 24:1

1 The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; NIV

6. Discuss the definition of Irony below why is this story ironic.

An outcome of events contrary to what was, or might have been, expected.

7. The irony of the story is the resistance of the tenants to give the fruit of the vineyard to the man that owned the vineyard. How does this parallel with our residence to give God money, wealth and resources he has blessed us with?

