

## Just Give Part 4: "Stewarding our Treasure" (2-25-2018)

**This series: "Just Give"** An act of surrender, that enables us to become Generous Givers, who learn to Steward well all we have been giving by our Father the King!

**Last 3 Weeks:** 1) Becoming Generous Givers                      2) Being Faithful & Wise Stewards                      3) Giving the Tithe

**This Week:** "Stewarding our Treasure" This is a decision that we need to make and then manage.

### 1) Make the Decision to live as a Steward of His Money

Recap the Story of the woman who anointed Jesus' feet found in Matthew 26:6-16, Mark 14:3-11, and John 12:1-8

**Mary** – humility, extravagant, remembered, and fragrant (she gave of her best)

#### John 12:3 (ESV)

Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

**Judas** – scolding, phony, thief, and betrayal (he stole from Jesus money bag)

#### John 12:4-6 (ESV)

(4) But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, (5) "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" (6) He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it.

**How does the Story end?**

#### Matthew 26:13 (ESV)

Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her."

#### Matthew 26:14-16 (ESV)

(14) Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests (15) and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. (16) And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

**Note:** Each was remembered . . . Mary celebrated and Judas scorned.

**Who will you be?** If you think that's a bit extreme, remember our passage 2 weeks ago from Luke 16 . . .

#### Luke 16:13 (NKJV)

"No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

We make this decision and then we have to manage it, or live it out. Here is how . . .

## 2) Manage that Decision by being a Faithful Steward of His Money

**Context:** Don't be anxious about providing for your life, Treasure is a map to our Heart, Parable to live ready for the return of the Master (Luke 12:35-40)

### Luke 12:41-43 (ESV)

(41) Peter said, "Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?" (42) And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? (43) Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

**Note:** We are faithful stewards by knowing & obeying our Master!

### Andrew Murray from "Jesus Himself"

"Where does disobedience come from? And the answer comes, It is because I am trying to obey a distant Christ, and thus His commands do not come with power"

**Examples:** from my life of Obeying Jesus with finances - Micah's adoption costs, Jackson's car (with a bow!)

## 3) Manage that Decision by being a Wise Steward of His Money

Now, through knowing and obeying Jesus, we can grow to become wise stewards by learning from our Master.

**Topics** the Bible address related to Money . . .

- **Contentment** (1 Timothy 6:6-12)
- **Anxiety** (Matthew 6:25-34)
- **Greed** (Luke 12:15)
- **Debt** (Proverbs 22:7)
- **Hard Work** (Colossians 3:22-25)
- **Saving against winter seasons** (Proverbs 6:6-11)
- **Care for the poor, widow, orphan, foreigner** (Proverbs 22:9)
- **Oversight** – pay attention to your money, where is it, where is it going (Proverbs 27:23-24)
- **Invest** – use your money wisely (Matthew 25:14-30)

**Number of Verses** in the Bible addressing money . . . The Bible contains over 2,000 verses about money and possessions—some bible scholars have estimated that 15% of everything Jesus said related to issues of money.

**Wisdom in Stewardship** – it includes and starts with the tithe but it's about the full 100%. We give him 10% but we honor him with all. This applies to anyone whether you have \$10 or \$10 million. Tithing creates the need for order & budgeting which leads to:

- Meeting practical needs – family, friends, and beyond
- Proper balance between saving & spending – spend less than you make
- Avoid debt – borrow is slave to the lender
- Affords opportunity for offerings & generosity

**Conclusion:** Choose Stewardship, and become a faithful and wise steward who knows and learns from his Master!