### Next Steps

#### □ Today, *for the first time*, I pray

Lord Jesus, I want to start the new year off right by accepting You as my Savior. Thank you for forgiving my sins. I trust You with my life. Amen

I want to sign up for:

- □ Indoor Baptism, Sun, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>
- □ Fierce Bible Study, starts Feb 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm
- □ Starting Point, starts Tues, Feb 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm
- Get Ahead (biblical financial principals), starts Tues, Feb 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm

I want to take my next CLASS Jan 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm. Sign me up for:

□ CLASS 101:	CLASS 201:	CLASS 301:
Membership	Spiritual Maturity	My Ministry

Send me info about Man Camp, Feb 20-21. Contact me at:





## *Financial Balance: Good Attitudes & Practices with Money*

**I. Money:** a current medium of exchange in the form of coins and bank notes.

Steward: person who manages another's property or finances.

"But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth..." Deuteronomy 8:18 (NIV)

"The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets." Proverbs 21:20 (LB)

"But divide your investments among many places, for you do not know what risks might lie ahead." Ecclesiastes 11:2 (NLT)

"... The **purpose of tithing** is to teach you always to **put God first** in your lives." Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB)

#### II. The Story of the 3 Stewards (Managers) Matthew 25:14-30

#### **Observations:**

- Jesus is telling a series of stories to help people understand the "Kingdom of God"
- 3 Managers of different abilities mentioned:

Manager 1	5 talents of gold (375 lbs)	= \$6,034,095	doubled	= \$12,068,190
Manager 2	2 talents of gold (130 lbs)	= \$2,091,819	doubled	= \$4,183,639
Manager 3	1 talent of gold (75 lbs)	= \$1,206,819	hid	= \$1,206,819
	Total Invested	\$9,332,733		\$17,458,648
			Profit	\$ 8,125,915

#### **III.** Lessons from Matthew 25

 1. I'm a \_\_\_\_\_STEWARD \_\_\_\_\_. Everything I have

 BELONGS
 to God.

"He called together his servants and **entrusted his money** to them while he was gone." Matthew 25:14b (NLT)

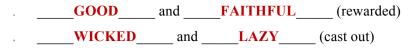
2. God has loaned you <u>MONEY</u> and <u>LIFE</u>.

"He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he **made five talents more**. So also he who had the two talents **made two talents more**. But he who had received the one talent went and **dug in the ground and hid** his master's money." Matthew 25:16-18 (ESV)

# 3. One day Jesus will return and we must \_\_\_\_GIVE AN ACCOUNT \_\_\_\_ of our stewardship.

"After a long time their master returned from his trip and **called them to give an account** of how they had used **his** money." Matthew 25:19 (NLT)

4. Your stewardship actions will put you in one of these categories:



#### Invest your life wisely.

- . Commit to **FOLLOW JESUS**.
- . Live as a \_\_\_\_\_\_ STEWARD \_\_\_\_\_ of your life and resources.

"Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your