

Discussion & Reflection Questions
Brave Unknown - Week 6 - Pentecost 15C - 21st September 2025

Read: Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." ³ Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" ⁶ He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." ⁷ Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ 'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

Discussion Questions

1. This is a difficult parable to understand. What do you think are the main points Jesus is trying to convey?
2. Neither the manager or the "rich man" who was his master seem honourable. Do you think that Jesus audience would have heard this parable differently to how we might today?
3. Why do you think Jesus appears to commend the dishonest manager's shrewdness, even though his actions were questionable?
4. What does this parable challenge us about wealth & money?
5. Where in your life might God be calling you to be more faithful with the resources entrusted to you (time, money, influence, gifts)?
6. What does the statement "You cannot serve both God and money" (v.13) mean for Christians living in a materialistic society today?

7. What does radical stewardship look like in a season of change & growth?
8. How does this passage relate to our theme “brave unknown”?

Prayer

O God, you are rich in love for your people: show us the treasure that endures and, when we are tempted by greed, call us back into your service and make us worthy to be entrusted with the wealth that never fails. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.