

FINANCIAL COACHING FROM A CROOK

LEGACY: WHERE MY LIFE LIVES ON – PART 4

START TALKING. WITH AN ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

- You can find some on page 6 [here](#).
- What criminals have you known? Did you learn anything from them?

START THINKING. ASK QUESTIONS THAT WILL GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- What does our culture think about thieves and crooks? Allow time for multiple perspectives.
- Why don't most people enter a life of crime? Why do some people?
- Read the scriptures on the next page in preparation for the following conversation.

START SHARING. CHOOSE THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL CREATE OPENNESS.

- What are your first impressions about this parable?
- Pastor Mark shared how the crook, looked ahead, planned ahead, and acted quickly. Which one are you good at? Which one is a weakness for you?
- What is a step of financial planning you need to act on this year?
- How do you honestly feel when giving to further God's kingdom? Like you are investing, or losing? How did this feeling mature?
- What is one of the best financial decisions you've ever made? How did you come to make it?
- Share how you have experienced the principle of Luke 16:10.
- Have you observed that those who are generous to God's kingdom are also filled with a spiritual depth? (vs 11)
- How has loving money caused you problems? How has loving God helped you overcome loving money?

START PRAYING. BE BOLD, AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Father. It is all yours. Help me be as wise as a serpent, and as innocent as a dove. Amen. (Matthew 10:16)

START DOING. COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- That action you should take this year . . . what is the first step? Take it. Tomorrow.

Luke 16:1-13 (NIV)

¹ Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions.

² So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'

³ "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg--

⁴ I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'

⁵ "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

⁶ "'Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred.'

⁷ "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "'A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'

⁸ "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light.

⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰ "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?

¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

¹³ "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."