



EST. **NORTHVIEW** 1980
COMMUNITY CHURCH

“Jehovah Jireh” - Secure in Uncertain Times, Part 3 – May 17/18, 2025

A simple framework to facilitate a spiritual conversation
to help you and your group be **deeply rooted followers of Jesus.**

THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS ARE A COMPANION TO A “TOPICAL” WEEKEND SERMON SERIES.

From September to April, our Community Group Guides primarily feature a brief study of the *biblical* text used in the weekend sermon. For the next several weeks, we’re looking more at *biblical themes* covered in the weekend message. Enjoy!

Note from Pastor Mark:

“The big idea that I hope we can/will communicate in this series of messages is that God can be trusted to take care of the needs of His children. It is HE - who is ultimately our supply, our keeper, and the financial manager of our lives. We can indeed trust Him! That trust will be tested when we are asked to actually put it into practice - specifically - when we are asked to give away the key “thing” we look to for security here and now - Money! But the blessings of God to the generous person are abundantly clear in both the OT & NT.

I am hoping that our congregation will have a deeper trust and confidence and joy in serving the LORD through our time, talents, and treasures as a result of these five weeks.

I am praying that this series will carry a tone of encouragement and trust - not a guilt-inducing - but a hope-building that God can be trusted - and therefore we are free to be generous people, living generous gospel-infused lives!”

READ LUKE 16:1-9

- 16:9 drives home Jesus' point in telling this unique parable. A helpful way to think about it: "The steward, as a child of this age, knew how to handle the system to his best advantage, but the children of light do not know how to live wisely within their "system." That is, they do not know how to live in keeping with the kingdom already present."¹
 - **Conversation Starter::**How have people in your life used their wealth to benefit your walk with the Lord?
 - Who are you specifically grateful for? What did they do? How has it made an impact in your life?
- If "making friends" is about spending in light of our identity as "people of light" (extending mercy and being generous with our money)...
 - When you consider your financial circumstances, does generosity seem like something for "other people?"
 - (Do you exclude yourself from conversations about generosity? Why or why not?)
 - What are the common barriers to generosity? (For yourself personally, or that you think are common for others.)
 - In what ways has "guilt" rather than "grace" been used to motivate you to be generous?
 - What motivations from this text does Jesus have for his instructions on worldly wealth?

READ LUKE 16:10-13.

- Connecting these sayings to the parable that comes before, "The parable of the unrighteous steward tells disciples to think ahead with discernment about their actions and priorities. They must serve the one master who counts, God. They must also be aware that no one can serve "both God and money."²
- Look up **1 Timothy 6:6-10** and **Hebrews 13:5-6**.
 - What themes do you see in these texts? What connects to the text in Luke 16?
- How could we identify if money really is our "master?" What does that require? How would we know?

NOW WHAT?

- The word "do/make" has prominence throughout: vv. 3, 4, 8, and 9. Like the dishonest manager, the hearer of the parable should ask, "What shall I do?" and then plan and act wisely in using possessions in a way that is in alignment with God's kingdom. Select a question or two to discuss below:
 - What does "faithfulness" with money look like?

¹ Klyne Snodgrass, *Stories with Intent*.

² Darrell L. Bock, *A Theology of Luke and Acts*.

- What things would move someone from a love of money to a love of generosity?
- Is there an area in your life where you want to be more faithful or generous with what God's given you? Who could benefit in their relationship with God from how you use money?
 - What's the first step you would need to take?
- Pray for our church family, that God will stir willing and generous hearts among us and be able to advance the gospel to an even greater degree in our city and across our nation.
- Please pray as a group for our ALL IN capital campaign.
 - Our hope is that everyone who calls Northview their "church home" will join us in giving to this project. As Pastor Darcy says, "It's not about equal gifts, but equal sacrifice."