

DIGGING DEEPER

Luke 16:1-15 – The shrewd manager: "Savvy spirituality"

PLEASE READ - Luke 16:1-15

GETTING STARTED

Are you horrified by Jesus applauding what appears to be clear dishonesty? (Aren't some parables *meant* to be outrageous ... in order to make us *think*?)

SEVERAL SETS OF QUESTIONS

Do the alternative suggestions make any better sense of what is happening here?

"Manager's discount"? Legal technicality?

What do we make of the skills of unbelievers?

Can they actually be admirable?
Would it be wrong to admit it?
Are these signs of "the image of God"?
Could acknowledging these things help us in evangelism?

When to be "shrewd"?

Where is the balance between being warm and generous, and cool and calculating? When can being "shrewd" be particularly important? Can you think of any examples? On which side is it better to err?

So if we actually believed this ...?

If this stuff about heaven is true, how should that focus our minds? Are there things we would make sure we did a whole lot better? So why don't we?
Would Jesus' teaching apply only to our use of money? What else?

Who possesses you?

What does our use of possessions say about us? How can we tell if our possessions are starting to possess us?

"What people value highly is detestable in God's sight." (v15)

Discuss!