



## WEEK 5 - TEST AND TOOL

### WELCOME

- ◆ Spend a few minutes greeting everyone in the group.

### ICE BREAKER/INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS

- ◆ What have you done so far to “beat the odds” with your finances? What benefits are you seeing? Why is making changes in how you manage your money difficult?
- ◆ How would you describe someone who manages their money wisely? What do they do? What do they not do?

### DISCUSSION

1. Read [Luke 16:1-2](#). What was the manager responsible for doing? What were the consequences for doing a poor job?
2. How can accountability help you be responsible with your finances?
3. Read [Luke 16:3-4](#). What was the manager’s initial reaction when he was held accountable for the poor quality of his work? How did he describe his options? What circumstances did he point out?
4. What circumstances motivate you to take action when you need to make changes in how you handle money? How can self-evaluation help you make wise choices with your money?
5. Read [Luke 16:5-7](#). What was the manager’s attitude toward losing his job? What did the manager do to recover the master’s money? How did this plan benefit the manager (see verse 4)? What do you think of the manager’s plan?
6. Read [Luke 16:8](#). How did the master respond to the results of the manager’s plan? How do you feel about what the master said? How would you define the word “shrewd?”
7. Why do you think Jesus used this illustration? What point was Jesus trying to get across to His disciples? Is Jesus saying all of the manager’s actions were admirable? What does this parable teach us about using our resources?
8. The elements of time and influence or opportunity are part of responsible money management. What financial tasks do you tend to put off? What are the consequences of not acting in a timely manner?
9. Read [Luke 16:9-12](#). Who could you express gratitude toward for using their worldly wealth for your eternal good?
10. How could you use your worldly wealth, your temporary stuff, as tools for the eternal? In other words, how could you choose to beautify your eternal dwelling rather than your earthly one?
11. How many times does Jesus use the word trust? Are you passing the test and earning the trust of the Master? Is there an area of your finances where you are being dishonest or otherwise untrustworthy? How could you better use the resources, the tools He has entrusted you with, for what matters?
12. Read [Luke 16:13](#). Think through how your money was used this past week. In what ways did you serve God? In what ways did you serve money? What choices could you make this coming week that would better serve God?
13. As a group, brainstorm ways that we can use our resources as tools for the Kingdom.

### PRAYER

- ◆ Ask your group to pray with you for wisdom to see His priorities for your money. Ask them to pray for specific financial decisions you need to make to be a trustworthy manager?