



WEEK 4 STUDY GUIDE

Read [Luke 16:1-14](#).

The parable of the shrewd manager is one of the tougher parables to understand and figure out how to apply to our daily lives. A parable is a story—not a real account, though often based in the experiences of everyday life—with a moral or an eternal truth. Part of the confusion with this particular parable arises when we lose sight of the moral and look to this story for instruction on financial advice. Don't get lost in the details of the financial dealings, because honestly what the manager does is pretty shady; you should step back and look at the bigger picture.

Jesus' intention in His parable wasn't to give the blueprint for business dealings, but to share a strong lesson—and warning—about money. Those who are faithful with little will be faithful with large amounts. As we are growing in faithfulness, we can be susceptible to a love of money. Jesus wants us to be careful because money can compete with God for the top priority in our lives.

Since this parable can be confusing, we are going to use a second Scripture to help us understand it. Scripture can help us understand other Scripture.

Read [Matthew 6:19-21](#). This Scripture compares two treasures: one on earth and one in Heaven. It also gives a similar warning to the parable to not let our hearts be consumed by the lesser treasure.

WEEK 4 OVERVIEW

THE MAIN POINT

God is faithful to us,
so let's be faithful to Him.

THE BIBLE

[Luke 16:1-14](#) &
[Matthew 6:19-21](#)