



FUND \$

FUNDAMENTAL

The Point: It's Not Yours!



Psalm 50:9-12

- What stood out to you from this week's Point? (they can be funny, serious, stupid, or spiritual)

- Read Psalm 50:9-12.** What do you think the point is here in what the Psalmist writes about God and everything in the world?

- So if everything is God's and what we have in our possession is really His, what does that make us in relation to "our" possessions? (managers/ stewards)

- During the point, we were given three examples of stewards that are/were responsible for something. Does anyone remember what they were? (Nat as a bank teller, Denethor the character in Lord of the Ring, and Herod in the Bible)

- Read Matthew 25:14-30.** What do you think Jesus was teaching us through this parable? During the point, we learned three things that we can take away from this parable: Trust is Granted, Management is Expected, and Reward is Waiting.

- With those three takeaways in mind, take a minute and think of ourselves as stewards or managers of possessions and money that God has given us. Does that impact your mindset in any towards what we may do with those possessions and money? How, if so?
- Have you ever loaned someone money or some material possession and only for them to waste it or break it? How did that make you feel towards them and how did you react?
- Is that similar to what we may be doing towards God with our possessions and money or is that not really the same?
- If we change our mindset to seeing our possessions and money as they truly are, God's, and seeing ourselves as the managers of it/them, do you think that you would free up some expenses in your budget? Why do you think we struggle so hard with that?

OUTSIDE THE BOX

As we begin this series on FUND\$, let's discuss as a group a question to try to broaden our mindset a little bit. That question is: How can you use not only money but also material possessions for God's benefit? *(Leaders discuss this and then read the next part)*

With the WIRELESS Series still fresh in our minds, it's important to take what we learned about prayer and spend time asking God this very same question and discuss it with Him. I encourage you to do this over the next week and if you want to share next week how that went that's great. If you don't that's fine, too. No pressure!

Psalm 50:9-12 (NIV)

I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.

Matthew 25: 14-30 (CEV)

The kingdom is also like what happened when a man went away and put his three servants in charge of all he owned. The man knew what each servant could do. So he handed 5,000 coins to the first servant, 2,000 to the second, and 1,000 to the third. Then he left the country. As soon as the man had gone, the servant with the 5,000 coins used them to earn 5,000 more. The servant who had 2,000 coins did the same with his money and earned 2,000 more. But the servant with 1,000 coins dug a hole and hid his master's money in the ground.

Some time later the master of those servants returned. He called them in and asked what they had done with his money. The servant who had been given 5,000 coins brought them in with the 5,000 that he had earned. He said, "Sir, you gave me 5,000 coins, and I have earned 5,000 more." "Wonderful!" his master replied. "You are a good and faithful servant. I left you in charge of only a little, but now I will put you in charge of much more. Come and share in my happiness!" Next, the servant who had been given 2,000 coins came in and said, "Sir, you gave me 2,000 coins, and I have earned 2,000 more." "Wonderful!" his master replied. "You are a good and faithful servant. I left you in charge of only a little, but now I will put you in charge of much more. Come and share in my happiness!" The servant who had been given 1,000 coins then came in and said, "Sir, I know that you are hard to work for. You harvest what you don't plant and gather crops where you haven't scattered seed. I was frightened and went out and hid your money in the ground. Here is every single coin!" The master of the servant told him, "You are lazy and good-for-nothing! You know I harvest what I don't plant and gather crops where I haven't scattered seed. You could have at least put my money in the bank, so I could have earned interest on it." Then the master said, "Now your money will be taken away and given to the servant with 10,000 coins! Everyone who has something will be given more, and they will have more than enough. But everything will be taken from those who don't have anything. You are a worthless servant, and you will be thrown out into the dark where people will cry and grit their teeth in pain."