

## **Why Does God Care About the Way We Handle Money?** **Luke 16:1-17**

Pastor Jason Van Bommel, Forest Hill Presbyterian

*One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? -Luke 16:10-11*

It's not hard to understand why Jesus cares about how we pray or how we think about the Bible. These are spiritual matters. It's also not hard to figure out why Jesus cares about how we treat others and that He emphasizes loving our neighbors. After all, people are made in God's image and God calls us all to love each other. But money? Why does it matter to Jesus how we spend our money?

In today's reading, Jesus teaches us much about money:

1. We should use the money and resources we have to bless others. (v. 9)
2. Money is a little thing compared to the true riches God offers in His kingdom, but if we're unfaithful with a little thing like money, how can we be trusted with the greater riches of the kingdom? (vv. 10-11)
3. Our money is not really our own, but it is a stewardship trust from God. (v.12)
4. It is impossible to serve money as our master and also serve God. (v. 13)

These three truths together help us understand why Jesus cares about how we spend money. Money is an important measure of what we truly value and how we think about the things God has entrusted to our care.

We could say that it's because money is such a small, unimportant thing that how we spend it matters so much. After all, if we're willing to compromise our obedience to God for mere money, what does that say about our priorities? Or if we'd do almost anything to get money, what does that say about our hearts?

We must serve only God and make sure that the money He gives us is used faithfully in service to Him and His kingdom alone!