



Series: Stewardship

Sunday, April 10, 2011

Pastor Joseph Ardayfio

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STEWARDSHIP :: well done thy good + faithful servant

PART VII: RICH TOWARDS GOD

📖 SCRIPTURE: LUKE 12:13-34

key theme: In order to be faithful stewards of our money + possessions, we have to learn to be rich towards God and to invest our earthly treasure where we want our heart to be.

- 1) **God is not pro-money, anti-money; pro-possession, or anti-possession, he is pro-Lordship.**
 - a. God wants to be Lord, and anything that tries to take away from his Lordship is an enemy of God. [Exodus 20:2-3].
 - b. Our issue is not whether we have an abundance or a small amount of money + possessions but what is our attitude towards that money + possessions.
 - c. We will never have a right attitude towards money and possessions if we don't first have the right attitude towards God and eternity.
- 2) **The 1st kingdom principle of faithfully handling money and possessions is that we must first be rich towards God.**
 - a. Richness towards God is contentment + satisfaction in God alone. [Philippians 4:11-13] On the other hand, worry diminishes our richness towards God.
 - b. 3 Characteristics of Richness towards God
 - i. We don't worry or set our hearts on what we will eat or drink because we recognize that it is the Lord who clothes us in his glory and provides to us all things.[12:29]
 - ii. We seek first God's kingdom [12:31]
 - iii. We trust and recognize that our Father is pleased to give us the kingdom. [12:32]
- 3) **The 2nd kingdom principle is that wherever our treasure is, our heart will be there also.**
 - a. The place of our treasure is where we will focus our time + energy.
 - b. Pastor Joseph paraphrase [v34] – "Where we place our tools [money, possessions], is where we are going to focus on building our house [heart passion]."
 - c. Money is a tool that can be used to build temporary and eternal treasure, but it is disappointing when we worship the tool, rather than using the tool for what it was designed for by God.

Mars Hill Fellowship Church is a new gathering of believers in the Metro Boston area. We come from a variety of cultures, ages, educational backgrounds, and family histories, but we share the common testimony of being transformed by God's everlasting love. We are living witnesses that the gospel is real and has the power to redeem all people. We strive to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

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