



## Life Church Sermon Sheet:

Date: Sunday, June 2, 2024 Rev. M. Dixon  
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**Title: Luke 16: Being a First Responder for God**  
**Remember one who was in our midst.**

**Week 1: The Balance between Justice and Love.**

Scriptures: Luke 16:1-15 The Shrewd Manager, We can't serve money!

God wants us to  
understand the  
priority of the Heart

### **The Shrewd manager: Luke 16:1-15**

**<sup>10</sup> "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. " So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"**

**<sup>13</sup> "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."**

**<sup>14</sup> The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. <sup>15</sup> He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight."**



 CHECK

 CALL

 CARE

Group Questions #1 is Key others are points of Departure...

Questions:

1. What did this Scripture mean to those who Heard it? What does it mean for us?
2. Do you run to Needs, or run away from them? What does that Look like?
3. Are there areas you have learned helplessness? How can you confront that in others you are trying to help?
4. What are Lessons learned from the Shrewd Manager, from EMT's that we can apply to how we outreach to those around us?
5. What Lessons of Money can we take from this Parable... ? Is Money Evil? The Love of Wealth, like the love of any idol is? Do we secretly worship money?
6. What Things do we carry that get in the Way of service?
7. What things take up Brain Space in our head that slows us down or slows us from running to those in need?



QR for Life Church Notes Page...



# Life Church Sermon, June 8 By MD ^2



**We are all First Responders! Whether we like it or not! We need to be Ready!**

**BEING A FIRST RESPONDER**

**PART 1- GOD'S CALLING ON OUR LIVES!  
LUKE 16**

**REMEMBERING A FIRST RESPONDER IN OUR MIDST**

**Week 1: What is a First Responder?**

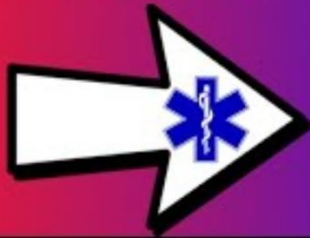
**Luke 16 When the Lord commends Shrewdness!**

**How do we help those with injury!**

# THE LIFE OF THE FIRST RESPONDER

- The life of a first responder is **a challenging but rewarding one, involving long hours, exposure to traumatic events, and a significant impact on their communities.** They face immense pressure and risk, often seeing severe injuries, illness, and death, which can lead to psychological and physical health issues. Despite these challenges, many find deep satisfaction in their ability to help others in crisis. (Google Gemini)

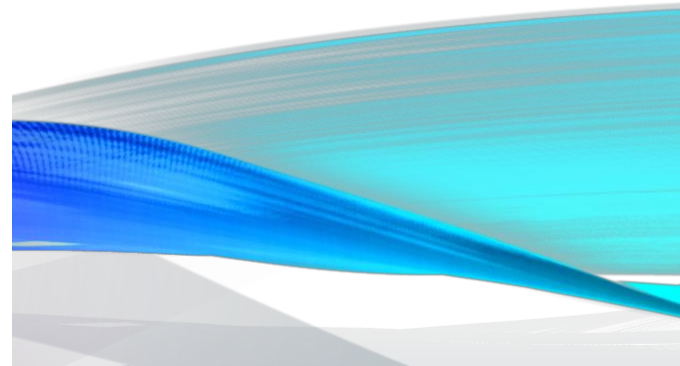
**WHAT YOU  
LEARN AFTER  
1 YEAR**



**Week #1 How we deal with  
people needs to be Shrewd.. To  
Save as Many As possible.**

LUKE 16  
PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF  
DISCIPLESHIP?

**Week 1: What is A first  
Responder?**



# LUKE 16: 1-15

## THE SHREWD MANAGER

Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup> So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’

<sup>3</sup> “The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— <sup>4</sup> I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’

<sup>5</sup> “So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

<sup>6</sup> “‘Nine hundred gallons<sup>[a]</sup> of olive oil,’ he replied.

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

<sup>7</sup> “Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’

“‘A thousand bushels<sup>[b]</sup> of wheat,’ he replied.

“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’

<sup>8</sup> “The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. <sup>9</sup> I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

## LUKE 16: 1-15 CONTINUED

<sup>10</sup> “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. <sup>11</sup> So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?”

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## FIRST RESPONDERS HAVE TO BE SHREWD

- Why is this Parable Connected to being a First Responder? Survival... Our own and that of others... Requires doing what needs to be done...
- You have to connect with those you help... Make them comfortable... If I could reduce your debt, then you might be our friend. The owner (Jamie) took off JJ's Meal from the bill because he could. TO save someone, you have to be shrewd and meet people on their terms... TV's, Drowners and all...



# MAMMON

## We can't serve God and Mammon

Mammon is an Aramaic Word.. Often Considered a Spirit of Wealth, not just Money or Wealth.

1. Recap... 10 Commandments... Love God and His Image Bearers. NO IDOLOTRY.. You can't be a True Christian and ask other gods for help...the Prodigal son, knew his 911 number called his Father... Material things by definition when trusted for life and safety and worship are Idols...
2. A kingdom cannot be divided among itself... [Luke 11:17](#)
3. But He knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every **kingdom divided** against itself is laid waste; and a house **divided** against itself falls.
4. The Prodigal son worshipped Wealth before he left. When he came back he worshipped his father.
5. THE CURE FOR OVERCOMING THIS SPIRIT IS SIMPLE!!!! Generosity- Hospitality! We Overcome this Spirit by finding ways to give back! That is Love- that is God! One Master!



## FIRST RESPONDERS GO WHERE THEY ARE SENT, AND WHERE THERE IS NEED...

- Here I am Send me? That is the Calling of a First Responder...
- First Responders are on the Road...
- First responders pack light. Can't serve God and material things.
- First responders Focus on Life, THE HEART (and getting Oxygen to the Brain! Breathing and Blood Pumping.. Everything else is secondary. GOD SEES OUR HEARTS...



# KNOWING WHAT TO DO..

1. **Check surrounding** to make sure you don't fall to the same thing those you are helping fall into.
2. **Check to see if they are responsive** to you helping... Drowning victims... example.
3. **GET HELP**- PRAY (calling 911), CALL THOSE WHO MIGHT HELP IN AREAS YOU CAN'T, etc.
4. **Provide Care that you are able to give.** (Get Trained to help.. ). Be there.. Meet them where they are, and at the Point of their need.. Etc. Be present for them!

Be like Isaiah... Lord send me....

## The 4c's of First Aid



1. **C**heck for Danger
2. **C**heck for Response
3. **C**all 911
4. Provide **C**are

**REMEMBER**  
**CHECK**  
**CHECK**  
**CALL**  
**CARE**

## **AS DISCIPLES WE CURATE THE WHO WE DISCIPLE AND SERVE AND HOW WE REMAIN HEALTHY ENOUGH TO HELP!**

- Who do we serve- We decide. The Pharisees made it clear they didn't want to outreach to romans and gentiles- they were the enemy, and their rules made a wall between them and the gentiles- not just a difference between their gods and rules, but between the people themselves.
- Jesus broke down that wall and was accessible to all!
- Are people Accessible to you?
- Do they think you don't like them?
- What can we do to break walls down but not compromise who we are?
- BRAIN SPACE. How do we keep our Brain space filled with God and Praise for him so we don't get burned...



# LEARNED HELPLESSNESS...





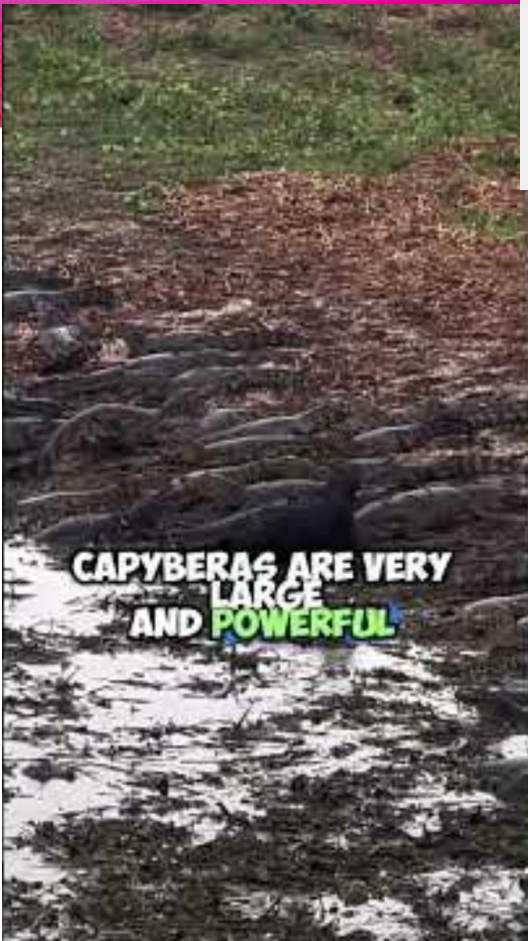
# **HOW WE CURATE DISCIPLES: BE CAREFUL OF WHAT WE LET INTO OUR BRAIN SPACE!**

- Brain Space Exercises... Earworms to anxiety... When you hear about accident on the expressway your child was on... How does this relate to Divorce? We get down on People when we begin to dwell on faults. This is a matter of the flesh... Saul was the Flesh King and he was also the cure for the Flesh... He had to fill his Brain with Music to function properly. When we come to people, we need to not take things personally, Ask to turn the TV down, Don't give up, but know we will lose some people... because of their choices... That is OK..





THE LIFE OF AN EMT IS MOSTLY BORING!  
ROUTINE, NOT EXCITING! BEING READY  
FOR THOSE SPECIAL MOMENTS IS KEY!





# BEING FIRST RESPONDERS..

## LET'S REVIEW:

- **Week 1:** Luke 16: 1-14 The Shrewd Manager.. Learning from Sinners, Animals, Anyone that can connect us with those in need...



### Questions:

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