



Matthew 25:14 “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,^[a] each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

19 “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

The man said the same thing to the two bags guy.

24 “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

26 “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant!’

ICEBREAKER

What traditions are you looking forward to this Thanksgiving?

Conversation Guide

1. Is money a topic you talk about easily or is it more difficult to talk about? Why?
2. Dave talked about two sides of a coin, that seem very different but are both true. Like so many other areas of faith, we have to balance the coin on its side to live in both truths. Side #1 God is always ready to love and forgive no matter how we mess up in stewardship. Jesus died on the cross to handle our mess ups. This is good news for all of us. Side #2 is God cares deeply about our stewardship. Both the piece of the pie that we give directly back to God and the remainder we steward for ourselves and our families. He cares deeply because we are his hands and feet and resourcing agents in the world.
 - a. Which side of the coin looms larger in your heart and mind? Why do you think that is?
 - b. What does it look like to balance the coin on its’ edge?
 - c. Why do you think God designed so much of faith this way?
3. **Watch the end of Dave’s teaching together beginning at minute sixteen.** Things to remember that will help us use the rest of the pie well. Things that are just as important to God as the money you give to the church. Which one surprises, pleases, concerns, excites, motivates you?
 - Take care of your family.
 - Ownership Clarity - it all belongs to God, it is his
 - Be intentional - Keep track of where your money goes.
 - Live with Margin - Spend less than you take in.
 - See God’s provision beyond your salary.
 - Put others first - share what you have.

- Enjoy toys, trips and experiences.
 - No judgement of others.
4. What has been your personal journey with learning to give a piece of the pie back to God?
 5. What did your history teach you about giving to the church?
 6. After you give, what lessons have you learned about money the hard way?
 7. What might God be whispering to you about the Rest of Your Pie?