

Expanded Life Lesson Notes
Pirates - X Marks the Spot
07.12.2008

Icebreaker - Answer the following multiple choice questions - What did Americans spend more on in 2005?:

- Pretzels or MP3 Players?
- Perfume or Diamonds?
- Gumballs or Botox?
- Lotteries or Weddings?
- Toys or Bird Watching?
- Lawn/Garden or Churches?
- Valentines or Vending Machines?
- Education or Shoes?
- Thievery or School Supplies?
- World Missions or Movies

1. Read Luke 16:1-4. How can you relate with the rich man? the manager? Have you ever had a time when you trusted someone with valuables and they broke the trust? What did you do?

2. Read Luke 16:5-7. What was the manager's plan? Why did he work so hard? What did the manager believe about his future?

3. Read Luke 16:8. Why did the owner commend the dishonest

manager? What would you have done?

4. Read Luke 16:9. What challenge does Jesus give to us in this verse? What is the difference between the people of the light and the people of the world? What should that difference look like in daily life today? What does it look like to use money as a tool?

5. Read Matthew 6:19-20. How do you store up treasures in heaven?

6. Why is storing up earthly treasures such a temptation for us?

7. What's the difference between living for the "dot" and living for the "line"? Read Is. 40:6-8 and James 4:13-15. Why is it so dangerous to live for the dot?

8. Read Luke 6:10-12. How is money and stuff a test? What does it mean to pass the test (How is this an ownership issue)? Is there any way to find the balance between being in the world and yet not like the world in this area?



Resources:

There are a lot of scriptures to look at this week. So please take time as a group, read the passages outlined in this week's notes. Take them to heart and talk about these verses and how they apply to our lives.

Application:

On your own write three ways you have used "stuff and money" as a tool in the last three months:

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Answer Key:

Pretzels \$1.3B MP3 players \$1.2B, Perfume \$14B Diamonds \$12.1B, Gumballs \$500M Botox \$300M, Weddings \$57B Lottery \$38B, Bird watching \$36B Toys \$22B, Lawn and Garden \$85B Church \$83B, Vending Machines \$36B Valentines \$31B, Shoes \$50B Education \$38B, Thievery \$41.6B School Supplies \$27B, Movie tickets \$9B Missions \$5.2B

