

Sermon Based Life Group Guide

-“Report Card” March 9, 2008-

Discuss:

With \$5000 to spare, what would you do: a) Put it in a certificate of deposit, collect modest but sure interest? b) Put it in an envelop and hide it in the closet because the present oil prices might bring about a stock market crash? c) Buy items at garage sales and put them up for sale on eBay with big potential for profit?

Open Bibles to Luke 19:11-26.

1. What misconception (vs.9-11) prompts Jesus to tell this parable?
2. Where does the man of noble birth go? Why? What are his servants to do in his absence?
3. How do his subjects regard him? Despite their opposition, what happens to this quest?
4. What has happened to the 10 minas given to the 1st servant? The 2nd servant? How does the master reply to them? How is the 3rd servant's report influenced by a faulty perception of his master? Hence, what is his "reward?"
5. Does vs. 26 contradict Jesus' words to the ruler in 18:18-30? Why or why not?
6. In this parable, who does the master represent? The enemies? The servants? What is the basic point? How does it speak to the initial misconception?

* The above was modified from the NIV Serendipity Bible, Zondervan, Grand Rapids 1984; p.1374

Life Application

1. Share with the group what talents and resources you think Jesus has left with you?
2. Divide up into groups of 2 and 3. Open a conversation with reference to how you feel about the way you've "invested" your talents and resources.
3. Break back into the large group. Each take a few moments of silence reflection before the Lord on ways you'd like to be more wise in the approach of "investing" your talents & resources.
4. Would you like to share with the group what you are hoping to do and would appreciate the prayer support?

Prayer
