

Everything is lent to us to look after

What about you?

How might you transform each of the items on the list you made earlier of things you would be unwilling to give up (see page 16) so that they are cherished and used fully for God's purposes, not just your own?

Choose the item you are most hesitant to give up and hand it/him/her over to God's care and love.

Verse

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? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? [LUKE 16:10-12]



Prayer – use this prayer or write your own:

Father, thank you for giving me access to your riches as your partner in your work. Please help me to be faithful as I seek to use all that you've lent me to bring you glory. Amen

For further reflection

Read LUKE 19:1-27

Jesus came into the life of Zacchaeus and changed him from a selfish accumulator of wealth for himself into a generous steward of God's wealth. Jesus came to rescue such lost people [v.10]. How has Jesus coming into your life changed your attitude to wealth and integrity?

Jesus is **not** like the hard man of noble birth [vs.12, 21]. There is nothing that Christ "did not put in", so he is fully justified in expecting us to look after properly what he has given us. Looking after the gifts of our King is **not at all** like looking after a beautiful painting by locking it up in a vault [v. 23]. He expects us to put all that he has entrusted to us "to work... until [he] comes back" [v. 13]. Reflect on Christ's return and how this truth will help you to work better with all that God has entrusted to you: with each of your possessions, your family members, your work, and with each ability and spiritual gift.

Reflect on the fact that the more we put what God has given us in to his eternal work, the more he entrusts to us [vs. 24-26]. [See also LUKE 16:9-15]