

RIGHT ON THE MONEY A God's Eye View

#nponthemoney

Week 2 2 of 4

February 12, 2017

Bottom Line: When you see as God sees, you will do what God says.

Icebreaker: When was the first time you spent more than \$100 of your own money on something, and what did you get in exchange? Do you still have it?

Key Verse: "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 16:9

The prophet Isaiah recorded a statement about the difference between our natural human perspective and the perspective of God. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9). Perhaps no other story Jesus tells illustrates the vast difference in how we think and how God thinks than this one. We read what Jesus said and our eyebrows go up. Seriously, Jesus? You are bragging on someone you yourself call dishonest? What's up with that?

Actually, we are missing the point. Jesus was hammering home that all of our resources are our tools to make an impact for eternity. Just as the manager used the resources he had to make sure he had a friendly reception, a safe place to land when his job ended, Jesus is saying that we need to see it His way. Our money, our resources, are the instruments we are to use to make sure we have a welcome party in heaven. Think about it. God's way of seeing things is that everything we have and do now matters forever. He has prepared an eternal home for us, and He wants us to use everything He has resourced us with in this life to prepare for a warm welcome there. Think of it this way. God is preparing a great welcome home party for you when you leave this life. You don't have to do anything for it – He is preparing the food, the treats, all of it. The only thing YOU are responsible to do is invite the guests. You invite them by the way you impact and serve them with your resources now.

Who is going to be at your party because you saw things as God sees and did what He does? Think eternal.

THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on Dwight's message. Did you find yourself shocked or resisting anything?

The profound difference that occurred in the manager when he realized his time in charge was limited impacted the way he did his job and the way he managed the resources. How does realizing your time "in charge" of your life here is limited make you feel about the way you are using your resources and investing in people?

Jesus said that faithfulness in small ways leads to being trusted in large ways. How have you seen that in life financially?

God's perspective is that when money and possessions have a grip on your heart, you don't have a grip on Him. Do you see it that way? Why or why not?

LOOK IT OVER

The most well-loved verse in the Bible says, "God so loved that he gave . . ." (John 3:16). How does the idea that "when I see as God sees, I will do what God does" work out in this situation?

What do you think Jesus means when He says, "The people in this world are wiser/more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than people of the light"?

Have you ever considered when you get your paycheck that God is very interested in what you do with it? What might He say to you about what He sees when He sees your budget?

What's the last thing you did with your money that will still matter in 10 years? In 100 years? In eternity?

If I am not doing what God says, I am not seeing as He sees. What do I need to do to fix my perspective?

NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together, as a group:

- 1) If you are willing to be transparent enough, share what you see about your finances when you are looking through God's eyes and perspective. Where are you in agreement? Where do you not yet see as He does?
- 2) The resources I have to use to give me a warm welcome into my eternal home go beyond simple money. Make a list together of resources that God sees as tools for you to use. How can you use them? Pray together to see as He sees and do as He does.

EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: When you see as God sees, you will do what God says.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?									
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?									
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?									
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?									
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?									

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Day 1: Luke 16:14-15, 19-31

Day 2: John 3:10-14

Day 3: Acts 20:35, 2 Corinthians 8-9

Day 4: Hebrews 13:5

Day 5: Mathew 6:21