



Trusting God With Our Finances

Read: Luke 16:1-13

In the gospel we hear the story about the steward who gets released from his master's service for being dishonest. The steward redeems himself by calling his master's debtors to account. Jesus instructs his listeners that one cannot "serve God and mammon."

Mammon is often translated as wealth or money. In Hebrew the word means, "that in which one trusts". Many people put their trust in their financial prosperity. Though money can be used for good purposes, it can quickly become a source of trouble if governed improperly. Jesus says that an unhealthy attitude towards money is incompatible with discipleship.

At St. John Bosco one of our core Discipleship Values is "Give". Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). The essence of the Christian life is to serve God and one another (Mark 10:45). In order to grow as disciples we must enact the principle of "Give". Therefore, we must be generous with our time, talents and treasures.

Jesus also wants us to recognize that whatever we want God to bless in our lives, we must put him first in that area. In order for God to bless our finances, we must decide to give a portion of our income back to him. We are all called to give generously of our resources in proportion to what we have received from God. Doing so ensures that our community remains financially healthy, supports our parish mission and enables us to grow as disciples. When we are generous with our treasures, God will bless our parish community and us.

God wants us to be honest and responsible stewards with the resources he has entrusted us with. When we give to God, we grow as disciples of Jesus. That is the ultimate blessing of financial generosity.