

Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers

(A Journey Through the Gospel of Luke)

“Faithfulness in a World of Wealth”

Luke 16

July 12, 2026

Pastor David Bardowell

Big Idea

Disciple-makers faithfully steward everything God entrusts to them because they are living for eternal rewards rather than temporary riches.

Disciple-Making Focus

Faithfulness with earthly things reveals kingdom priorities.

I. Disciple-Makers _____ What Belongs to God (vv. 1-13)

“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.” (Luke 16:10, NIV)

“You cannot serve both God and money.” (Luke 16:13, NIV)

Key Truth:

Disciple-makers recognize that everything they possess belongs to God.

II. Disciple-Makers _____ for Eternal Riches (vv. 14-18)

“The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, were listening to all these things and scoffing at him.” (Luke 16:14, CSB)

“For what is highly admired by people is revolting in God’s sight.” (Luke 16:15, CSB)

Key Truth:

Disciple-makers pursue God's approval rather than the world's applause.

III. Disciple-Makers _____ with Eternity in View (vv. 19-31)

“There is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.” (Luke 16:26, NLT)

“If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.” (Luke 16:31, NIV)

Key Truth:

Disciple-makers live every day in light of eternity because eternity changes everything.

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Small Group Questions — Week 19

Follow Me — and I Will Make You Fishers

Week 19: Faithfulness in a World of Wealth

Text: Luke 16

Start Here — Reflective Question

Have you ever been entrusted with something valuable that belonged to someone else? How did knowing it wasn't really yours affect the way you treated it?

Read the Passage

Have someone read **Luke 16** aloud before discussion.

Discussion Questions

1. Faithful Stewards — Luke 16:1–13

Jesus tells the surprising parable of the dishonest manager, emphasizing the importance of faithful stewardship.

- Why do you think Jesus used such an unexpected story to teach about stewardship?
- What do you think it means that "whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much"?
- Why is it often difficult to view our money, time, and possessions as God's instead of our own?
- Jesus says, "You cannot serve both God and money." How can money quietly become a master rather than a tool?

2. What God Values — Luke 16:14–18

The Pharisees ridiculed Jesus because they loved money more than God.

- Why do you think wealth and success can become measures of importance in our culture?
- The sermon said, "**Earth measures success by accumulation. God measures success by faithfulness.**" What does that statement mean to you?
- How can we guard our hearts from pursuing the world's approval instead of God's?
- In what practical ways can we demonstrate that God's Kingdom is our highest priority?

3. Living with Eternity in View — Luke 16:19–31

Jesus contrasts the lives—and eternal destinies—of the rich man and Lazarus.

- What part of this story impacts you the most?
- Why do you think Jesus ends the chapter with such a serious warning?

- What does this story teach us about the importance of responding to God while we have the opportunity?
- How should eternity influence the way we make decisions today?

The sermon said:

"Faithful disciple-makers leverage temporary things to accomplish eternal purposes."

- What temporary resources has God entrusted to you that could be used for eternal impact?

Disciple-Making Connection

The Disciple-Making Focus this week was:

"Faithfulness with earthly things reveals kingdom priorities."

- How can our homes, finances, time, and relationships become tools for making disciples?
- Who has God entrusted to your care or influence right now?
- What is one intentional step you can take this week to invest spiritually in that person?
- How can this group pray for you as you seek to be a faithful steward?

Close Together

Spend time praying together.

Pray that God would:

- Help you see yourself as a faithful steward rather than an owner.
- Give you wisdom in how you use your time, money, gifts, and influence.
- Keep your heart focused on eternal priorities rather than temporary success.
- Open doors for meaningful spiritual conversations this week.
- Help you hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Weekly Challenge

Each morning this week, pray:

"Father, everything I have belongs to You. Show me how to faithfully use what You've entrusted to me for Your Kingdom today."

Then intentionally use one resource God has given you—your time, your home, your generosity, your gifts, or your influence—to encourage someone spiritually or begin a meaningful conversation about Christ.