

Sermon Notes – July 13, 2014
“Survivor”
Luke 16:1-8
Pastor Bill Hoffman

Some scholars opine that this is probably the most difficult of all of Jesus' parables. What are some difficult questions/issues raised by this story?

Putting yourself in the shoes of Jesus' original audience, how do you picture the landowner? The manager? The debtors?

Does the master's reaction in verse 8 to his manager's actions surprise you? How would you explain the master's praise of the manager to a preschooler?

Can you think of people who have character traits that you admire, yet whose lives are otherwise far from exemplary?

The manager is praised for acting “shrewdly” (NIV) or for being “streetwise” (Message). Who are some people today who exemplify this quality? How do you think Jesus wants “people of the light” to exemplify this quality?

The manager faced a crisis because his master was going to hold him accountable for how he conducted business. How does an awareness of your accountability to God impact your behavior?

Often we are encouraged to live in obedience to God because it's right. This passage suggests that godly living is also bright, shrewd, in a person's best interest. Which motivation for living a godly life is stronger for you?