

Sunday Message: April 11, 2021

Meet Jesus | A Generous God, Genesis 1:26-31 and Luke 16:1-13

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## Reflection Questions

**1** Read a few of the following: Psalm 37:4; Jeremiah 29:11-13; Isaiah 55:1-3; John 10:10, 15:11, 16:24, 17:13. From these verses it is evident that God's desire for us is one of abundance, not scarcity.

**2** Why do you think so many people find this hard to believe? Where or how might you personally find this difficult to accept in your own life presently?

**3** What could it look like to explore or challenge your own questions concerning God's goodwill toward you? How could you move towards God in the midst of your own doubts this week?

## DIGGING DEEPER

*The primary translation used on Sunday mornings is the ESV. The corresponding notes in the ESV Study Bible are helpful when reflecting on the questions below.*

### Text Exploration Questions

**Read Genesis 1:26-31 and 3:1-6. Reflect on the following questions related to Sunday's sermon.**

- Compare God's commands and blessings with the serpent's distortion of truth. Create two lists.
- In comparing the passages in Genesis, discuss the following quote from Danny's message: "God's fruitful commands become barren rules. God's purposeful commissioning becomes painful obligation. God's commendation is exchanged for condemnation."

**Read and study Luke 16:1-13.**

- Who is the audience in this parable? (16:1, see also 16:4)
- What is revealed about the character of the manager of the rich man? How is the manager portrayed throughout the parable? Look for descriptive words about the manager.
- What is the main concern of the manager after he is fired in 16:2? How does he try to take control of this situation? What's up with the master's commendation of the manager in 16:8? Doesn't that seem a little weird based on what we know about the manager?
- Jesus makes his transition from story to teaching in 16:8-13. What is the point of the parable? What is Jesus trying to say about the way of the manager and the way of the sons of light (aka believers or followers of Jesus)? What is "unrighteous wealth" (16:9, 11) and "true riches" (16:11)?
- What is the eternal or spiritual insight that is taught in this passage? How is the eternal and spiritual perspective applied to our lives as disciples of Jesus? How is it applied to our discipleship of others and the church body? How might we turn this Jesus into a prayer?