

### Questions (cont.)

6. Which of the five commitments do you think is most important for the church to remember?
7. Which of the five is most surprising?
8. In what ways are churches sometimes motivated by fear? What are the results?
9. What does it mean to spend much of our money “on people who aren’t here yet?”
10. Why is it important for us to acknowledge that not everything we try (or spend money on) will work? How does knowing this free us?



### Money and Mission

#### Avoiding the money trap:

1. Everything belongs to God.
2. God has entrusted me with His money as a tool for His Kingdom.
3. He wants to provide for not just my needs, but everyone’s needs.
4. God expects me to be purposeful with what I have.

The Church is simultaneously \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

“Giving to God” is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- Sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ have used money line their pockets.
- Sometimes churches can be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Matthew 25: The parable of the talents (or bags of gold)

The characters in parables always represent someone:

- The man who went on a journey=God (or Jesus going away and coming back at the judgment)
- The servants = His followers (i.e. the Church, us)

This parable teaches us about God's expectations for His church.

### Our commitments for the use of money:

1. It's \_\_\_\_\_ money. (Psalm 24:1)

- We are only financial \_\_\_\_\_.
- We will use God's money \_\_\_\_\_.

2. We will treat money and possessions (facilities) as \_\_\_\_\_.

- God's goal isn't to make \_\_\_\_\_. He's in the \_\_\_\_\_ business.
- People are \_\_\_\_\_. (guitars, organs, projectors, church vans are not)

3. God is serious about His \_\_\_\_\_, so we will seek it first.

- God is the loving father with high \_\_\_\_\_.
- The third servant is called " \_\_\_\_\_ " and " \_\_\_\_\_."

- We can't allow the fear of doing the \_\_\_\_\_ thing scare us into doing \_\_\_\_\_.

4. We will spend much of our money with those who aren't currently \_\_\_\_\_.

- \_\_\_\_\_ is "getting over ourselves."
- We ask the question, "Do the people we invite feel \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_?"

5. We won't always get it \_\_\_\_\_.

- We won't allow failures to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ us.

God's money in the church is to be used for \_\_\_\_\_.

### Questions for Discussion and Reflection:

1. Can you think of some examples of the Church being both spiritual and physical, human and divine? (i.e. communion)
2. Do you ever feel this tension yourself? How does it impact you? (e.g. humbles you, scares you, etc.)
3. What do you think is Jesus' main point in the Parable of the Talents?
4. What is the "return on investment" God expects from His Church?
5. In what ways can money (or possession, facilities, etc.) become the goal of the church rather than tools?