

## SERMON NOTES

September 21-22, 2019 – Pastor Kischnick

THEME: “True Value” TEXT: Luke 16:1-15

**INTRO.** Apart from Family/Friends: most valuable possession? Fire/Flood: one item to rescue? Risk life to retrieve? Truth: it’s all just STUFF. Jesus in Gospel interested in TRUE VALUE. So should we be!

### I. The PEOPLE of THIS WORLD

**Illust.** My sons – baseball cards, Beckett magazine -\$!!! –Chump to pay!

#### A. Parable of the Unjust Steward

1. Confuses some – what does it mean?
2. Pastors often make a mess of it.
3. Does Jesus laud dishonesty here? Not at all!

#### B. “The people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind...”

1. The Master grudgingly admires the Steward’s shrewdness.
2. “He’s a lot like me!”

**Illust.** “American Greed” – Scoundrels and con-men, yes, but Average Joe gets stung by their own greed for “can’t miss” investment schemes.

3. Master is rich because he makes loans. Can’t charge interest in money, so accepts commodities to circumvent God’s law.
4. Next story = “Rich Man, Poor Lazarus”

#### C. Jesus says “People of the Light” are different:

### II. WHAT DOES GOD VALUE HIGHLY?

**Illust.** Collectible Toys: “Stretch Armstrong” in box = \$1650; “Luke Skywalker” in original pkg. = \$25K; “Garbage Pail Kids” card, mint= \$3000;

1<sup>st</sup> Ed. “Barbie” = \$23K; PEZ dispenser, “Astronaut B”, ’82 W. Fair = \$32K

#### A. God’s love doesn’t seek value, it creates it. It’s not because we have value that we are loved, it’s because we are loved that we have value.” William S. Coffin

#### B. Knowing all this –thanksgiving is our response.

1. Use our blessings to be a blessing. Love our “neighbors”.
2. Distribute His gifts. Spread His love. Make friends for Him.
3. Hold lightly things of this world. Hold tightly things of His.

**CLOSE:** Venice, San Salvador Church – “Supper at Emmaus” Old, dirty, over-looked. When cleaned: Vittore Carpaccio = \$50 million! That’s us.

Dirty, sinful, valueless. Redeemed, restored in Christ: TRUE VALUE!!