

*<sup>10</sup> "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. <sup>11</sup> So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"*

*<sup>13</sup> "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."*

You may wonder how I'm going to use this passage to speak into being frugal, trust me it's in here. And I know a thing or two about being frugal. I can remember agonizing over buying a \$7 box of disposable gloves at one point because I thought they cost too much and maybe I could use some work gloves instead. I was staining wood by the way, not ideal for leather gloves even if they were goat skin.

But I would encourage you to shift your definition of frugality. We may think it means being stingy or cheap. A nicer way to think about it is just that you don't spend money on what you don't need. But I think it's much more than this. This passage talks about how, if a person takes what they have, especially when it's only a little bit, and cares and manages it well, it speaks to the character of that person. They've taken the time to be trained in seasons of scarcity or little and they are ready for greater responsibility with increased value.

Jesus spells it out for us. Does the money control you or do you control it? If you have proven that money isn't your master and you are faithful to the right use of it, then Jesus intends to give you charge over even greater things. Frugality isn't about being cheap. It's about wisely assessing how something can be best used in service to God and then effectively executing it. And it doesn't matter how large or small the resource is. It's about your heart.

What resources has God equipped you with? Are you intentional about the use of these resources? Does the use align with what God would want? Are you frugal?

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