

Memorize & Ponder

Sept 18, 2016

Memorize & Ponder Text – Luke 16:13b
(Full Readings – Luke 16:1-13 & Ps 113)
Week of Sept 11 - 18, 2016

Shrewd Stewardship

Luke 16:13b (NRSV)

You cannot serve God and wealth.

*Throughout the Christian year of 2016, until Advent, we will be focusing on the theme of 'Following Jesus in a Fearful and Divided World.' Our Scripture readings and Memorize & Ponder texts will be taken from the Gospels of Luke and John. We invite you to **listen** for what the Spirit is saying in the text, then **question** how those insights might change the ways you see things and act in the world. Share your thoughts during the week on the meaning the Spirit creates for you in this text by posting a comment on our website – www.brentwoodpc.ca.*

Ponderings for the Friends of Jesus

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us provoke one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together ... (Hebrews 10:23-25a)

A Word for the Friends of Jesus to Ponder = Serving God

This, for me, is one of the most confusing stories that Luke recorded from all those that Jesus told. Wiser Greek and New Testament scholars than me suggest that the keys to making sense of it are found in vss 8-9 –
be prudent with the things of this life
in order to ensure well-being in the next.

If I might be so bold as to comment,
I think there might be a clearer way of saying that.

What is clear in my ponderings
with the help of the commentators
is that 'mammon,'
the word for 'wealth' that Luke uses here,
points to that which one trusts.
When we trust primarily
in our earthly goods and possessions,
when we see them as 'ours'
rather than gifts God has given us to use for blessing,
then we are not serving God.

Gratitude for Grace Noticed this Week

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