

Inside Out

Sermon Study Guide

4 August 2024

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10 and Luke 16:1-13

Background

1. What was Jesus' primary purpose and calling in his ministry?
2. What were some of the characteristics of the Rabbinic storytelling tradition of which Jesus was a part? And what was one of Jesus' strategies at the end of his stories that helped to highlight the principles and/or values of the Kingdom of God?

The Parable

3. What were the stock characters that populated Jesus' story and, given these characters, what might the hearer/reader reasonably expect to be the end of the story?
4. What was Jesus' mic-drop ending?
5. What four take-aways are presented in our reading in verses 8 to 13?
 - a. How might we try to make sense of each of these?
6. What is the inside-out reality mentioned in the sermon?
 - a. Who or what is at the center of the lives of so many in the world around us? And who is meant to be at the center, the center around whom everything and everyone else is meant to revolve?
7. What two results or consequences of a rightly ordered life were emphasized in the sermon?

Question for reflection

8. What idols have been or continue to be vying for space in the center of our lives?