



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 16:1-13

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'

And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'

The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful with the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Some things to think about...

What things have you been put in charge of (Stewardship) in your family, school and friendship group?

With our work as Mini Vinnies, the money we raise and the items we collect are for the poor and needy in our community. We are stewards over the money and goods for the people we help.

Activity

Collect a star from your teacher. You will now look after this star for a certain period of time. You need to make sure that your star doesn't get scrunched up or ripped or wrinkled – take very good care of it! After the period of time is complete, discuss with your class how you cared for your star to make sure it did not get damaged.

Materials needed for the activity: Paper star for each child

Teacher's Notes

In our work in the SVP we are stewards of the money and products that are given to us by people. The people that donate to us are trusting us to use their money to assist those in our community who are in need. Jesus says, 'One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.'

If we as Mini Vinnies use the small amount of money and goods we are given to help people in a trustworthy manner people will see that and they will trust us with more.

As an extended activity, the children could learn about SVP shops and what they do. Have a discussion about looking after what we have, so that we don't have to keep buying new things, and help to look after the planet. Explain how the shops help to reuse items to prevent more items going to landfill.

Could this lead to a clothes/toys collection which could be taken to the local SVP shop or CSP (Community Support Project)?