



No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

Matthew 6:24

“Spend Less”

December 7, 2018

Recap

- Make plans to _____ Emmanuel this Christmas season.
- _____ God how He wants you to help a child seeking shelter.

Problem

- You can't _____ your way to a good Christmas.
- We spend more because we believe in the myth of _____.

More than half of Americans say they spend too much during the holidays, and 55% say the season causes them to stress over finances.

God and Wealth

- Jesus said we cannot _____ God and wealth.

You don't have to have an excess of money to serve money.

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- We can _____ both, but we have to choose _____ to serve.

“For the _____ of money is a root of all kinds of evil.”

1 Timothy 6:10

- Serving money means never having _____.

- Jesus' _____ prove that in the Kingdom of God there is enough.

“When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him,

‘They have no wine.’”

John 2:3

Us and Wealth

- What's the worst gift you've ever received? _____

- Chances are it didn't honor your _____ with that person.

“Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of _____, _____, and _____.”

Matthew 2:10-11

- _____ will ruin our relationships and cloud our worldview.

“The challenge is to balance our desires with the needs in our communities and the rest of the world.”

-McKinley, Seay, & Holder in *The Advent Conspiracy*

Action Steps

- Set a _____, know your limit.

- Spend money _____ and _____.

- Value _____ over _____.

I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare.”

-C. S. Lewis in *Mere Christianity*