

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016  
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

# taking+ faith home

*Set your heart on God, not on money.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager
Monday	Mark 12:38-44	A widow's offering
Tuesday	Matthew 19:16-30	The rich young man
Wednesday	Psalms 62	Don't set your heart on riches
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 5:10-12	The love of money
Friday	1 Timothy 6:6-19	The dangers of loving money
Saturday	Psalms 113	The Lord helps people in need
Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

You cannot be the slave of two masters. You will like one more than the other or be more loyal to one than to the other. You cannot serve God and money. **Luke 16:13 (CEV)**

### **SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

O God, help us to use our money in ways that serve you. Amen. (Luke 16:13)

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, all good gifts come from you. We thank you for this gift of food. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord who cares for the poor and needy, give you a heart for the needs of others. Amen.



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## CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Share about something you saved for and then bought. How did it feel to buy it?
- Money is a gift from God. How do you think God wants us to use it? How can money cause problems in our relationship with God and others?
- In what ways can you use your money to serve God?

## DEVOTIONS

The apostle Paul encourages us to offer “requests, prayer, intercession, and thanksgiving” for rulers and all those in positions of authority (1 Timothy 2:1-2). In your household devotion times this week, pray for leaders in your nation and community, using the prayer suggestions below. Find out the names of those you don't know.

**Monday** - National leaders

**Tuesday** - State/provincial leaders

**Wednesday** - Community leaders

**Thursday** - School leaders

**Friday** - Church leaders

**Saturday** - Parents

## SERVICE

Our leaders need our encouragement for their work! Choose a government leader or official and write a note of support. Let the leader know you are praying for him/her.

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Societies typically praise the power of wealth to please ourselves. Psalm 113 praises the power of God to do good for the poor and needy. The tradition of tithing and doing acts of kindness for others is part of the Christian faith and life. Talk with family and friends about your use of financial wealth as a way to give praise to God. Make financial gifts to church and the needs of society a regular part of your journey of faith.

