

LIVE

without regrets



FAMILY
CHURCH



Live Without Regrets

The Parable of the Shrewd Manager

A Moment in History, A Call for Awakening

Across the world, millions of people are watching events unfold that stir the heart and awaken a deep spiritual hunger. Tragedies and turning points often act as catalysts, pushing entire nations to re-examine their values and their faith. When campuses experience unexpected revival, when public figures face sudden death, or when societies feel empty despite material abundance, a question rises in the soul:

“Am I ready? Am I living today in a way I will not regret in eternity?”

This book is about that question. It is about the kind of life that produces peace instead of regret, purpose instead of emptiness, and joy that no circumstance can steal.

Why People Are Coming Back

When disasters strike, many people rush back to places of worship, but often out of fear or a desire for safety. Yet today, in many hearts, something different is happening. People are not only afraid—they are hungry. They are realizing the world cannot fill the emptiness inside.

There is an opportunity in this moment: to engage in loving spiritual conversations, to be ready to explain the hope within, and to live a life so authentic that it points others to a higher reality.

If You Could Go Back

Every person can recall a time when they wish they had acted differently. Words left unsaid, words spoken too harshly, decisions made too quickly. We have all longed to go back and undo a mistake or take a different path.

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But while we cannot travel back in time, we can choose today to live differently. We can build a future we will not regret by applying timeless wisdom now. This is what Jesus's parables do—they teach us today how to prepare for tomorrow and for eternity.

The Parable of the Shrewd Manager

In Luke 16, Jesus tells one of His most unusual stories: a wealthy owner discovers his manager has been wasting his assets. The manager is about to be fired. Facing the loss of his position, he takes quick, strategic action—reducing debts for his master's clients so that, after losing his job, he will have friends to help him.

Jesus does not commend the man's dishonesty. He commends his *shrewdness*—his practical wisdom in preparing for life after employment.

In the same way, each of us is a manager, not an owner. God is the true Owner; our time, talents, and treasure are entrusted to us. This present life is our "employment." Beyond it lies eternity. And just as the manager prepared for life after his job ended, we must prepare for life after this life.

When Wealth Fails

Worldly wealth fails in many ways: a financial collapse, an unexpected illness, a disaster, a lost job. Yet even if none of these strike, wealth will certainly fail at death. No checking account, investment portfolio, or real estate can cross the threshold of eternity.

We must therefore use worldly wealth while it still has value—to invest in people, in compassion, and in eternal purposes. When Jesus says, "Make friends for yourselves by means of worldly wealth, so that when it fails, they may welcome you into eternal dwellings," He is teaching that our stewardship now echoes into eternity.

Living to Populate Heaven

The goal of stewardship is not simply to be financially wise but to populate heaven. There should be people in eternity because of how we lived, gave, served, and spoke on earth. Parents and grandparents influence children; volunteers shape the next generation; neighbors show kindness that opens hearts; believers support ministries that reach far beyond their own neighborhoods.

Imagine arriving in heaven and being greeted by someone saying, “I am here partly because of you.” That is the vision Jesus casts: lives so invested in others that eternal friendships await.

Beyond Money: A Life of Influence

This principle extends beyond finances. It includes our time, skills, relationships, and words. Buying someone a meal to open a conversation about hope, mentoring a student, serving in children’s ministry, caring for a neighbor in crisis—these are all ways to sow seeds that may flourish long after we are gone.

Most people who follow Christ make that decision before age 18. This means the greatest mission field is often the youngest. Investing in children and students multiplies eternal impact.

Managers, Not Owners

At the heart of this teaching is a shift in identity. We are not owners; we are managers. “No servant can serve two masters,” Jesus said. We cannot serve both God and money. Recognizing God’s ownership frees us from greed and releases us into generosity.

Our resources are tools to build lives, not trophies to display. Choosing God over money means aligning our hearts with what lasts forever.

Practical Steps for Eternal Investment

1. **Pray for Guidance.** Ask God to open your eyes to opportunities—people to serve, ministries to support, ways to use your talents.
2. **Act Promptly.** Spiritual impressions can fade under the weight of distractions. When you sense a prompting, resolve to act.
3. **Prioritize Eternity.** Make decisions not only for short-term gain but for long-term impact. Evaluate how your spending, serving, and speaking align with eternal values.
4. **Serve Where the Harvest Is.** Children, students, and hurting people are often most open to hope. Begin there.
5. **Live a Testimony.** Your life is the loudest sermon you will ever preach. Be salt and light in your city, school, workplace, and neighborhood.

A Life Without Regret

Choosing to live this way brings freedom and joy. Problems may remain, but perspective changes. Life with Christ is not about being spared hardship but about walking through it with peace, purpose, and hope.

One day, looking back, you will not say, “If only I had known.” You will say, “I am glad I knew and I lived accordingly.”

Preparing for Life After This Life

The blessings entrusted to us are not for us alone. They are meant to flow through us to others, drawing people to freedom, joy, and purpose. This is not only the mission of a church; it is the personal calling of every believer.

Live Without Regrets

Determine today to follow fully, to take a public stand, to invest your life in what lasts. Pray for your city, your school, your workplace, your neighborhood. Be salt and light wherever God places you.

Live today in a way you will not regret in eternity. For God is faithful, His promises are sure, and every act of stewardship for His kingdom echoes forever.

Prayer for the Reader

“Lord, open my eyes to see that I am a manager, not an owner. Show me how to use my time, my talents, and my treasure to bring others to You. Help me live a life that will echo in eternity and hear, ‘Well done.’ Amen.”

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