

## MONEY MISCOMMUNICATION | 4-24-16

### REFLECT & DISCUSS

Consider these facts: 40% of spouses don't know how much their partner makes. Six to seven million couples have secret accounts that they hide from each other. Communication problems are proven as the number one cause for divorce. Are you surprised by these statistics? Why/why not? Why is it so hard to communicate with those closest to us about money? How could we be better together if we communicated more effectively?

### READ: *Luke 16:10-14*

What are examples of little things we can be faithful in? What are examples of big things we can be faithful in? Is managing money a little thing or a big thing? Why? How does the way we manage our worldly wealth affect the way God trusts us with heavenly riches? How does this give more importance to the way we handle our money? Why does dishonesty in the little things erode trust?

### READ: *James 4:1-4*

Do you typically blame your spouse for your money struggles or do you take responsibility for your part? How does this passage relate to greed? How does it relate to coveting? How do we develop the right motives with our money? How does developing healthy motives bring your financial needs in alignment with God's blessings?

### READ: *Ecclesiastes 4:9-12*

The key component of this passage is the power of two strands (people) working together. What happens when two people communicate effectively about money? Have you seen an example of this? In what specific ways can you stand back to back with your spouse so you can conquer your financial challenges? If a couple represents two strands of a triple-braided cord, who is the third strand? Why is it important to invite the advice of this third person?

### CHALLENGE

Complete two of these three challenges this week:

1. Sow some fun into life. Laugh together about your miscommunications and misunderstandings. Sometimes we just take ourselves way too seriously!!
2. Establishing a budget sows the seed of financial stability and freedom. Review or establish a household budget. You can find a great tool at [lwchurch.com/now](http://lwchurch.com/now)
3. Have the courage to address one of your frustrations this week. Even more, have the courage to listen to your spouse's frustrations and then put together some steps to alleviate it.

### PRAYER

Holy Spirit, thank you for offering to change me in every way. I specifically invite you to transform the way my spouse and I communicate about and manage our money. We need your help so we can be on the same page and become better together.

*Written by John Grandy, Dalton Campus Pastor*