

THE UNJUST STEWARD

Wealth, Poverty, and the Church Today

By MIGUEL ESCOBAR

Four-Week Discussion Group Topics

Written for both individual and group use, *The Unjust Steward: Wealth, Poverty, and the Church Today* can be read cover to cover or thematically. Each chapter includes discussion questions and a suggested practical next step.

While not an exhaustive list, here are some ideas for four-week discussion groups:

Exploring Money and its Purpose

Week One	Chapter 3: Wealth's Purpose in the Gospel of Luke
Week Two	Chapter 12: Clement of Alexandria on the Usefulness of Staying Wealthy <i>and/or</i> Chapter 24: Augustine, the Good Steward of Wealth and Power
Week Three	Chapter 17: Evagrius Ponticus on Love of Money
Week Four	Chapter 18: Basil of Caesarea Preaches to the Wealthy in a Time of Natural Disaster <i>and/or</i> Chapter 20: John Chrysostom's Critique of Golden Cups

Rethinking Stewardship

Week One	Introduction <i>and</i> Chapter 3: Wealth's Purpose in the Gospel of Luke
Week Two	Chapter 12: Clement of Alexandria on the Usefulness of Staying Wealthy
Week Three	Chapter 18: Basil of Caesarea Preaches to the Wealthy in a Time of Natural Disaster <i>and/or</i> Chapter 20: John Chrysostom's Critique of Golden Cups
Week Four	Chapter 24: Augustine, the Good Steward of Wealth and Power <i>and</i> Conclusion: A Retelling of the Parable of the Unjust Steward

On the Eucharist

Week One	Chapter 2: The Lord's Prayer as Song for Hungry People
Week Two	Chapter 4: Paul on Eucharist and Economic Justice
Week Three	Chapter 8: Justin Martyr's Liturgy of Word, Table, and Koinonia
Week Four	Chapter 20: John Chrysostom's Critique of Golden Cups

Christian Charity and Philanthropy

Week One	Chapter 7: The Jerusalem Collection
Week Two	Chapter 9: Christianity as a Burial and Mutual Aid Society
Week Three	Chapter 13: Constantine's Imperial Benefits (Many Strings Attached) <i>and</i> Chapter 15: Julian's Begrudging Respect for Christian Charity
Week Four	Chapter 18: Basil of Caesarea Preaches to the Wealthy in a Time of Natural Disaster

Asceticism's Complicated Legacy on Wealth and Poverty

Week One	Chapter 16: Life of Antony: A Silent Protest and Legacy of Anti-Blackness
Week Two	Chapter 17: Evagrius Ponticus on Love of Money
Week Three	Chapter 22: Jerome on Sex, Money, and the Holy Poor
Week Four	Chapter 23: A Pelagian Monk Says Enough Already

Wealth and Poverty: Spiritual or Material Realities?

Week One	Chapter 1: Dreams of Reversal
Week Two	Chapter 11: Spiritualized Wealth and Poverty in the Hymn of the Pearl
Week Three	Chapter 12: Clement of Alexandria on the Usefulness of Staying Wealthy <i>and/or</i> Chapter 24: Augustine, the Good Steward of Wealth and Power
Week Four	Chapter 23: A Pelagian Monk Says Enough Already

Economic Justice

Week One	Chapter 1: Dreams of Reversal
Week Two	Chapter 4: Paul on Eucharist and Economic Justice <i>and</i> Chapter 7: The Jerusalem Collection
Week Three	Chapter 19: Against Predatory Lending
Week Four	Chapter 21: Gregory of Nyssa's Witness Against Slavery

Church, Empire, and the Public Square

Week One	Chapter 13: Constantine's Imperial Benefits (Many Strings Attached)
Week Two	Chapter 15: Julian's Begrudging Respect for Christian Charity
Week Three	Chapter 20: John Chrysostom's Critique of Golden Cups <i>and</i> Chapter 21: Gregory of Nyssa's Witness Against Slavery
Week Four	Chapter 24: Augustine, the Good Steward of Wealth and Power