

Welcome	Share about something you have paid for that has brought you unexpected joy.
Worship ideas	<i>Worship suggestions: SOF 210 I give you all the honour; 260 I want to serve the purpose of God; 851 I will offer up my life; 912 Lord, you have my heart; 1163 All to Jesus;</i> <i>(NB: 20 files containing about 30 newer songs are available to borrow from the office for groups)</i>
Word (refs.↓)	NB Check the church website www.stbchurch.org.uk (click on the 'downloads' tab) for Sunday's sermon. <i>Some suggestions for discussion here – you might prefer to focus on just 2 or 3 questions</i>
<u>Read</u> Luke 16:1-9	Jesus often talks about money and possessions – nearly half his parables tackle the subject in one way or another. This one is a particularly tricky one! Read vv.1-4. How do the 2 characters in the story to this point illustrate what God (the master) is like, and what his people can be like as 'stewards' of God's resources? vv.5-8. The steward may be 'forgiving' legitimate debts, or illegally-charged interest, or his own unofficial 'commission' (which he would no longer be able to collect). Which makes most sense to you? The master commends the steward for his shrewdness ('prudence' in older translations), rather than his earlier dishonesty. What lessons can we learn (see v.8)? Read v.9 (compare different translations if you have them – e.g. 'you will be welcomed' in older versions is 'they will welcome you'). Jesus is saying we should use the financial opportunities we have wisely: but for what? a) to secure our place in heaven; b) to get the best places in heaven; c) to resource those who help others find their way into heaven; d) to make friends and influence people around us here and now; e) some other purpose? 'When it is gone' (v.9b). How should the temporary nature of worldly wealth affect our readiness to invest in eternity? Does it make a difference to you?
<u>Read</u> Luke 16:10-13	Share some examples (if you feel able) of 'faithfulness (or unfaithfulness) in small things' – what were the consequences of acting in this way? In what ways can money become your master? Do any of these indicate a problem: * thinking/ worrying about it frequently? * not doing what we should or would like to do in order to make more money? * spending too much time caring for our possessions? * a reluctance to give? * being constantly in debt? How can we avoid these problems?
If time... <u>Read</u> 1Tim. 2:1-7	How do you understand v.4? If God wants everyone to be saved, why isn't everyone saved? In what ways can people come to a knowledge of the truth? How can ministries that do this be resourced?
<u>Witness</u>	<u>Pray</u> ❖ for your mission link; for faith-equipping people, projects or plans you are aware of which need funding. ❖ for God's provision for our needs as a church fellowship. <u>Plan</u> ❖ continuing group plans for the term, including social/ outreach events e.g. the Cider and Sausage Festival (Harvest Supper) at the Village Hall on Sat. October 5 th with Roger Simpson (Archbishop's Missioner) speaking on 'Taste and See'. ❖ to consider coming as a group to the launch of 'Believe in Hull' with Archbishop Sentamu, Tuesday October 1 st at Holy Trinity Hull, 7.30 pm.