

A Good Trade for Your Money (and Life)

What's the profit...? - Jesus in Matthew 16:26

We must make an investment if we want a return!

Fair Trade Practices:

1. We won't get _____ for _____.

Galatians 6:7 *What you plant – that's what you harvest.*

We reap:

+ _____ we plant

+ _____ we plant

+ _____ than we plant

Apply: Beware of a sense of _____.

Farmer: *Kain't harvest a crop if ya' don't plant!*

Broker: *Invested _____ don't return _____.*

Me: *Do I plant _____, expecting to reap _____?*

Am I investing, _____ or _____?

1 Timothy 6:9 *sumN · 4nut N = _____*

_____, _____, _____ *desires,*

2. Invest for _____ - _____ growth - not immediate _____.

Proverbs 21:17-20 *A fool _____ his wealth!*

Matthew 6:19-20 *You can't take it but you can _____ it.*

Apply: Beware of _____ your _____.

Farmer: *Ya kain't plant da beans ya done swallrd!*

Advisor: *There's no IRA if you spent it on interest.*

Me: *Is this an _____, an _____ or a _____?*

The Fool: *_____ solves everything.* Ecclesiastes 10:17

Am I as _____ with myself as I am with others?

3. Be prepared to deal with the _____.

Proverbs 14:4

Farmer: *Ain't git'n no _____ less'n ya step in _____.*

Advisor: *Most good investments _____ some _____.*

Mama: *If you're going to raise a family you're going to...*

Pastor Mike: *I _____ again!*

Apply: *If I keep life under my _____...*

Self-managed, ordered, comfortable

...I lose the Life under _____.

Challenge: Luke 9:23 & 14:33 *Have I counted the _____?*

- ...of taking? *Will I take up my cross or couch?*

- ...of keeping? *Will I keep my pride or reward?*

- ...of losing? *Will I lose my stuff or my soul?*

I'll take that! - Jesus

Discussion Guide: Fair Trade

**Opener: Share either one of you best, worst or most humorous “trades.”
What did you learn from that?**

1. We must make an investment if we want a return.

- Where do you see the “entitlement attitude” today?
- Have you ever seen it creep into your own thinking? No? Have you ever thought, “what did I do to deserve this?” OR... “I deserve better than that...”
- Have you ever experienced the “No milk without stepping in some manure” principle? Explain.
- How can we pass on what we’ve learned? To children, church, ...?
- How can we tell if we’ve moved beyond investing, to speculating, to gambling to stealing?
e.g. Where’s the line: Investing in house, stock, options, plots on Mars?

2. We must invest for long-term growth rather than immediate gratification.

- Is this the message of the money-making gurus of capitalism? Prosperity gospel? Do we teach it clearly in churches?
- What are several realistic scenarios of “a fool swallowing his wealth?” Proverbs 21:17-20
- What are several real life examples of “you can’t take it but you can send it on ahead”?
- Where do **you** hear the fool’s advertisement: “Money is the solution to everything!” Ecclesiastes 10:17
- How do we sometimes lie to ourselves about our life-investments? (Remember we’re not talking exclusively, or even primarily, about money and stuff. It includes our time, our talents and our treasures!)

3. We must be prepared to deal with the mess required for a multiplying profit.

- When have you tried to invest **in people’s lives** and “stepped in it?”
- Can we totally avoid the added mess and complexity of life, if we stay invested in relationships? Can you keep your Tony Lama boots spotless if you want to ride in the rodeo, or milk the goat, or drive the tractor... Can you do better than you did last time – i.e. do we have to go in up to our Levi patch every time?
- Do you get irritated with Pastor Mike’s Redneckisms? (Send complaints to him @JuniorSamples.BR549)
- How much do you want to know and need to know about other people’s messes? At work? In the neighborhood? At church?
- Does everyone around always need to know everything about everybody else’s mess?
- Would you like to talk to Mike or another pastor or an OSB member about a recent mess? In your life, their lives, or our church?
Contact mike@ssefc.org or chair Scott Peterson at smp1988mn@gmail.com

Prayer Target: Hands and hearts open to God so we keep & lose the right stuff!

A Good Trade for Your Money (and Life)
What's the profit...? - Jesus in Matthew 16:26

We must make an investment if we want a return!

Fair Trade Practices:

1. We won't get something for nothing.

Galatians 6:7 *What you plant – **that's** what you harvest.*

We reap:

+ **what** we plant

+ **after** we plant

+ **more** than we plant

Apply: Beware of a sense of **entitlement**.

Farmer: *Kain't harvest a crop if ya' don't plant!*

Broker: *Invested pennies don't return gold.*

Me: *Do I plant donuts, expecting to reap diamonds?*

Am I investing, gambling or stealing?

1 Timothy 6:9 sumN - 4nut N = _____

temptations, snares, harmful desires, ruin

2. Invest for long-term growth - not immediate gratification.

Proverbs 21:17-20 A fool swallows his wealth!

Matthew 6:19-20 You can't take it but you can send it.

Apply: **Beware of consuming your capital.**

Farmer: *Ya kain't plant da beans ya done swallrd!*

Advisor: *There's no IRA if you spent it on interest.*

Me: *Is this an impulse, an investment or a dream?*

The Fool: *₪ solves everything. Ecclesiastes 10:17*

Am I as honest with myself as I am with others?

3. Be prepared to deal with the mess.

Proverbs 14:4

Farmer: *Ain't git'n no milk less'n ya step in manure.*

Advisor: *Most good investments sacrifice some comfort.*

Mama: *If you're going to raise a family you're going to...*

Pastor Mike: ***I stepped in it again!***

Apply: *If I keep life under my control ...*

Self-managed, ordered, comfortable

...I lose the Life under God's control.

Challenge: Luke 9:23 & 14:33 *Have I counted the cost?*

- ...of taking? *Will I take up my cross or couch?*
- ...of keeping? *Will I keep my pride or reward?*
- ...of losing? *Will I lose my stuff or my soul?*

***I'll take that!* - Jesus**