



GOSPEL and MONEY

Brian Christopher Coulter

ME



YOU



WHAT

How do you share both the good news of the gospel and talk directly about the issues of stewardship and money in the church. Come and hear insights from the field, share stories, and get ideas for your next sermon series on one of the most needed and most avoided topics in our congregations.



HOW

C.I.A.

sermons

texts

movements

quotes

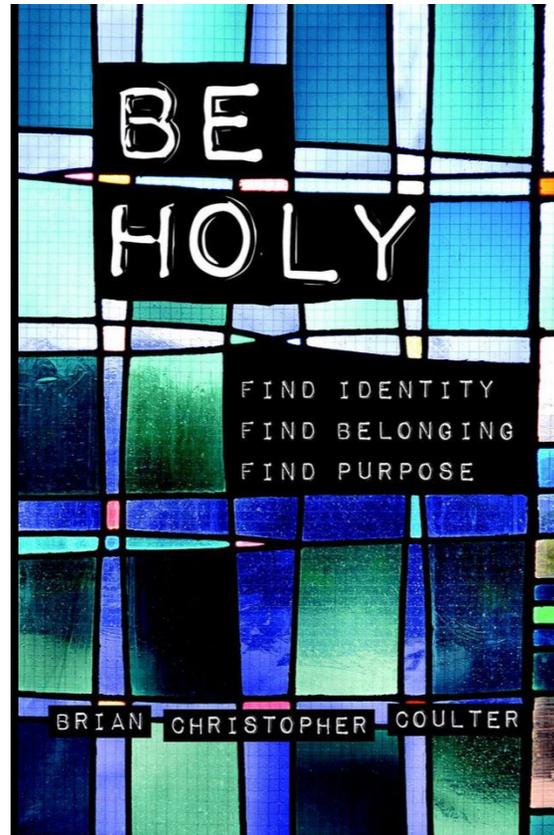
thoughts

top 10 list

Q&A



WHY



C.I.A.



C.I.A.

Clear

Inviting

Authentic



C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

Inviting

Authentic



C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

Inviting

rhythm

Authentic



C.I.A.

Clear *articulation*

Inviting *rhythm*

Authentic *range*



C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

cognitive message

Inviting

rhythm

Authentic

range



C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

cognitive message

Inviting

rhythm

intuitive illustrations

Authentic

range



C.I.A.

Clear

articulation

cognitive message

Inviting

rhythm

intuitive illustrations

Authentic

range

emotive elicitation



1

Ben Kane

“What Would Jesus Pledge?”

[sermon link](#)



1

Matthew 6:3-4

But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.



1

he argues with JESUS

innate need to be noticed

but notice what

GOD notices all

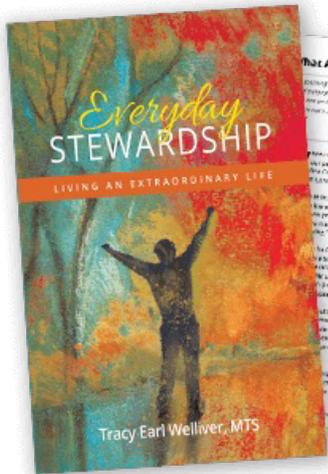


1

“Today is about Jesus and money. I feel it is necessary to be honest about what we are doing this morning as we glorify God through our worship. We are talking about money—a topic that causes a reaction; maybe it is an eye roll, maybe it is a shifting in your seat as talk of money makes you uncomfortable; maybe you’ve already tuned me out ...”



1 – direct talk about money



What Are You Here for Anyway?

...to be here for the sake of the Kingdom of God. It is not a question of whether you are here for the sake of the Kingdom of God or whether you are here for the sake of yourself. It is a question of whether you are here for the sake of the Kingdom of God or whether you are here for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

TAKE TIME TO REFLECT

...to be here for the sake of the Kingdom of God. It is not a question of whether you are here for the sake of the Kingdom of God or whether you are here for the sake of yourself. It is a question of whether you are here for the sake of the Kingdom of God or whether you are here for the sake of the Kingdom of God.

PURPOSE



Air Yeezy 2
Pure Platinum

SIZE 11.5	LOWEST ASK \$4,500	BUY \$4,500	HIGHEST BID \$3,005	SELL \$3,005
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[View All Asks](#) [View All Bids](#)



CONDITION: NEW
LAST SALE \$3,721 +\$422 (13%)
[View All Sales](#)



2

Fred Craddock
“Does Money Carry Germs?”

[sermon link](#)



2

2nd Kings 5:20

Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, thought, “My master has let that Aramean Naaman off too lightly by not accepting from him what he offered. As the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him.”



2

Elisha ... prophet

Naaman ... commander of Syrian armies

Gehazi ... the “chaplain’s assistant”

money isn’t dirty

but how we treat it can be

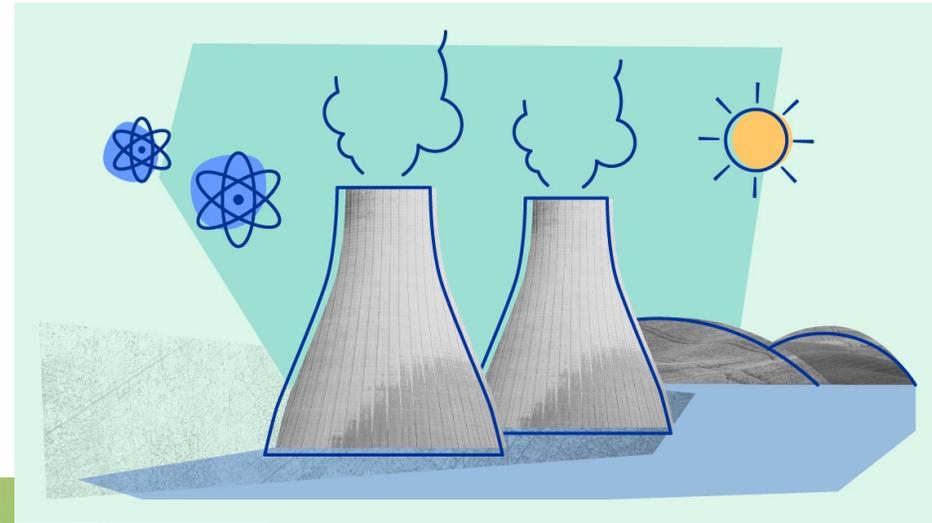


2

“Now, may I make two suggestions? One, in life the issue is not do you have money or do you not have money. Rather, the money you have, can you speak of it with celebration and love with your family? ... Two, Can you say grace over your possessions? Can you bow your head and say a word of thanks?”



2 – money isn't evil



3

Ryan Baer

“Presbyterians in the Bible Belt: Stewardship”

[sermon link](#)



3

Matthew 25:21

‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’



3

sermon series on reformed theology

proper use of the gifts of God

personal story

congregational story

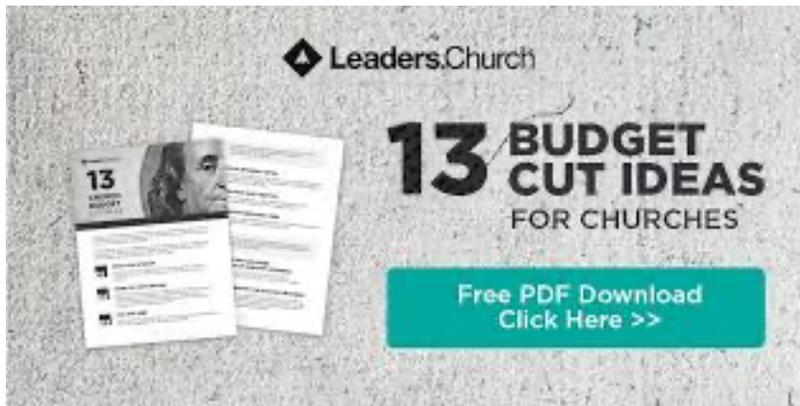


3

“The Church with a capital C is still accidentally training people that stewardship has mostly to do with institutional needs of the church, particularly buildings and budgets. We have reduced the word stewardship and devalued it to the equivalent of the fall fundraising campaign.”



3 – ~~budget~~ transformation



4

Tara Bulger
“know what you value”

[sermon link](#)



4

Matthew 6:21

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



4

Buechner quote on values = “look to your feet”

her feet

Jesus’ feet

grandparent’s feet



4

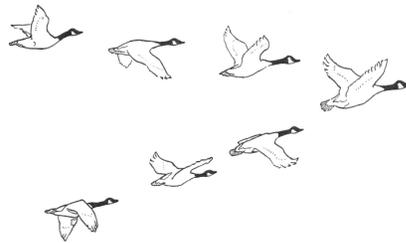
“Integrity is that cohesiveness between what you say you value and how you’re going to live that out ... I will tell you honestly that it is your decision how you give of your time, talent, and treasure. You decide how you are going to live out the values you have as people of faith.”



4 – align with values



values can create
ALIGNMENT



5

Sarah Sarchet Butter
“Wise Ones”

[sermon link](#)



5

Matthew 2:11

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



5

3 things we can learn from the magi ...

intellectually curious

engage with unfamiliar

radical generosity



5

“I have to tell you that radical generosity feels great! It gets us out of ourselves. It engages us in something bigger than ourselves. It invests us in the world around us. It’s anything but token or convenient. It’s transformational—we are transformed and the world is transformed!”



5 – need to ~~receive~~ give



6

Thomas Daniel “Bold Leadership”

[sermon link](#)



6

1st Samuel 17:32

David said to Saul, “Let no one’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.”



6

Saul is in stalemate

Edwin Friedman “a failure of nerve”

leaders are faithful to God (not success)

continue to be bold

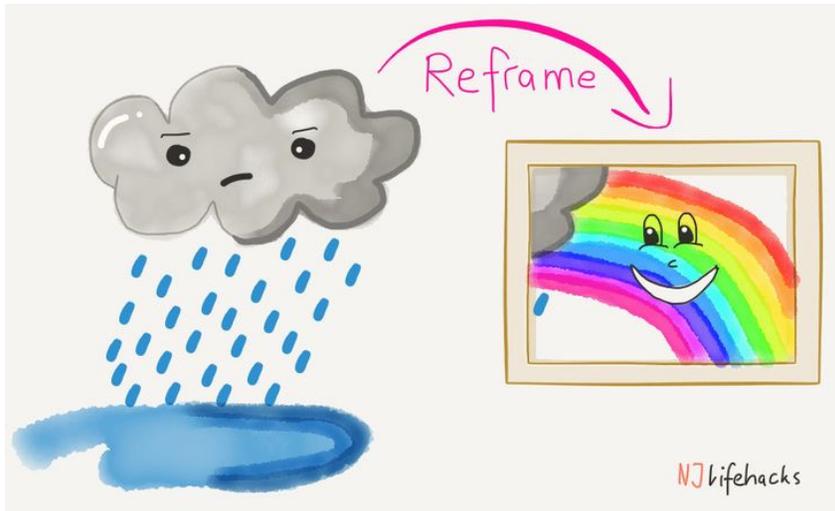


6

“God did not create the church to create successful growing institutions. That is not God’s dream. So, when we’re growing that can be a great thing, but that’s not the win. That’s not the goal. That’s not the objective that we’re after. Rather we are called and are excited by more and more people coming hopefully to be shaped to go and be a better love letter to Austin.”



6 – reframe the narrative



7

Alfred Graise
“Unity and Generosity”

[sermon link](#)



7

Acts 2:46-47

“... they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.”



7

community is important

Jesus prays for us to be community

how church functions as community

how you can as well



7

“And if you’re already connected, perhaps God is calling you to reach out to someone who you feel can use a little bit of encouragement and support. Someone who desires this sense of connection and community, but doesn’t know how to plug in. And maybe we are called to reach out to these individuals.”



7 – we're all in this together



8

Matt McCollum
“You are the Letter”

[sermon link](#)



8

2nd Corinthians 3:3

“show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God”



8

signatures

church = love letter

will you sign it?

what will that mean?



8

“begin percentage giving. Instead of just putting in the offering plate whatever you happen to have in your wallet that day, decide what percentage of your income you will give away. It may be 2% or 4% or 8% and next year grow that by a percent or two until you reach your target”



8 – percentage based giving

Annual Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	12%
\$20,000	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$1,600	\$1,800	\$2,000	\$2,400
\$30,000	\$600	\$900	\$1,200	\$1,500	\$1,800	\$2,100	\$2,400	\$2,700	\$3,000	\$3,600
\$40,000	\$800	\$1,200	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$2,400	\$2,800	\$3,200	\$3,600	\$4,000	\$4,800
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$6,000
\$60,000	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,400	\$3,000	\$3,600	\$4,200	\$4,800	\$5,400	\$6,000	\$7,200
\$75,000	\$1,500	\$2,250	\$3,000	\$3,750	\$4,500	\$5,250	\$6,000	\$6,750	\$7,500	\$9,000
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$12,000
\$125,000	\$2,500	\$3,750	\$5,000	\$6,250	\$7,500	\$8,750	\$10,000	\$11,250	\$12,500	\$15,000
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,000	\$10,500	\$12,000	\$13,500	\$15,000	\$18,000
\$175,000	\$3,500	\$5,250	\$7,000	\$8,750	\$10,500	\$12,250	\$14,000	\$15,750	\$17,500	\$21,000
\$200,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$14,000	\$16,000	\$18,000	\$20,000	\$24,000



9

Shannon Kershner “Joy and Generosity”

[sermon link](#)



9

John 12:5

“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?”



9

starbucks cup = flowers = offering to God

Mary's extravagant act

Judas' understandable protest

making a holy difference



9

“So this week, as you continue to prayerfully consider what you will pledge, give, to this church for God’s work in this world, for the building up of God’s kingdom, God’s reign, God’s community of love, or as your reconsider what you have already pledged, take into account what kind of a holy difference your gift will or will not make in your life.”



9 – ask the week before

● WEEKLY PLANNER ●						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						



10

Karl Travis

“If you’re living it,
then the sermon
kind of just writes itself.”



10 – live into it



all 10

- 1 – direct talk about money
- 2 – money isn't evil
- 3 – ~~budget~~ transformation
- 4 – align with values
- 5 – need to ~~receive~~ give
- 6 – reframe the narrative
- 7 – we're all in this together
- 8 – percentage based giving
- 9 – ask the week before
- 10 – live into it



Questions?

