



DESIRE WISDOM

because nothing else matters more

PART 9 • MAKING EVERY OPPORTUNITY COUNT • MATTHEW 25:14-30

Jesus is just a few weeks away from the cross and he's spending every moment he can teaching his disciples about the Kingdom of Heaven. Our text for today is another of Jesus' parables, The Parable of the Talents. Listen as we discover how to Make Every Opportunity Count!

MESSAGE RESPONSE

1. What stood out as new or fresh this time through?
2. What questions did these verses raise?
3. What helped you know or love Jesus more?
4. What ideas for application do you find?
5. What truth could you share with someone else?
6. Why did God write these specific verses into his book?

GOING DEEPER

- 1) Has someone ever given you responsibility to look after (steward) something of great value that belonged to him or her? How did it feel to be given that responsibility? If you haven't been given responsibility like that, how do you think you would respond?
- 2) Describe in your own words what it was that the master gave to each of his servants. What was the master's expectation of his servants? Why do you think that the servants given 5 and 2 talents traded them or risked them? Share one of the biggest risks you have ever taken in life. How did it turn out?
- 3) What does knowing that the master gave them each talents "according their ability" tell you about the character of God? What does the master's response to the servant given the 1 talent say about the character of God?
- 4) The Greek word for ability is *dynamis* meaning, power or strength given by God. What *abilities* has God given you since becoming a Christian and how have you used them? Have you buried any? Share an instance when you used a gift or talent that God had given you. How did using something God had given you well make you feel?
- 5) What ultimately is this parable about (See 25:1, 14)? How do we individually and together as the church use our talents (*dynamis*, abilities) to expand the Kingdom of Heaven?
- 6) If you had unlimited resources, what would you do? What would you attempt to do if you knew you wouldn't fail? What step is God calling you to make right now? What are you afraid of?

Key Scripture references from this week's message

Matthew 25:1-2, 14-30, 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24