

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“Bigger.Smaller.Deeper. – Kingdom Investing”

Matthew 25:13-30



JASON'S MAIN POINTS:

Wise investments must be made to maintain the work of the Master.

God will give you everything you need to do what he has called you to do.

With responsibility comes accountability.

Honor the Lord with what YOU have been given.

OTHER IMPORTANT POINTS:

Jesus is calling us to make the most of every spiritual opportunity we have.

God entrusts his kingdom resources to us in proportion to our demonstrated ability to wisely handle (steward) them. He knows what we can handle.

God will give us everything we need to do what he has called us to do.

With responsibility comes accountability.

READ: Matthew 25:13-30; Luke 12:35-48; Acts 4:32-35; 1 Corinthians 12; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-11; Philippians 4:10-13; 1 Timothy 6:6-11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you think Jesus simply said “watch” (be on the alert), rather than let us know exactly when he is coming back?
2. What is the main point of the parable of the talents and the three servants?
3. If the talents in the parable were silver talents (which they probably were), they would have been worth about \$28,000 each in today's exchanges. So the five-talent servant would have received about \$140,000 to invest for his master. The two-talent servant would have received about \$56,000, and the one-talent servant, of course, \$28,000. What's the point of giving each servant a different amount?
4. What does the fact that the two servants who doubled the funds entrusted to them both received exactly the same praise from their master, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much,” tell us about Jesus' performance standard? What does reward from the master depend upon?
5. The one-talent servant lost everything and was ostracized from the master's estate. Do you think he was being honest in his reason for not working while the master was away? Why or why not? What can you see in his response about his view of the master? Was this accurate? Why was he so negative? What can we take away from this evaluation by the master?

6. It has been said that God will give you everything you need to do what he has called you to do. Have you found that to be true in your life? Explain.
7. Ultimately, what is this parable about? How does a similar parable in Luke 12:35-48 help you? How does what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 12 add to the picture?
8. What are the “talents” you think God has entrusted to you? What are you doing with them to “make more”? What would you like to be doing with them? What's holding you back?
9. Would you like God to entrust you with more opportunity and responsibility? Why or why not? If so, what would you do with it? What must you first prove?
10. Since God does not need our money (he has all of it in the universe!), what does Jesus expect his servants to bring him when he returns to earth?

NOTES:

*If you want to know more about discovering and using your “talents,” join us for GPS.
Email Pastor Steve:*

stevej@illuminatecommunity.com

If you need help with stewarding your finances more effectively, send us a note:

*care@illuminatecommunity.com
(We'll keep it confidential)*