

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Cultivate - Stewardship

Jason Greene | Matthew 25:14-30 | November 10, 2019

DISCUSSION

1. Read Matthew 25:14-15. It's clear from this parable and many other passages that we were saved to embark on a mission. What is it?
2. What does the *talent* (NAS, ESV; *gold*-NIV) represent?
3. What does it mean that the master gave various amounts of gold to "each according to his ability"?
4. Read Mt. 25:16-17. The servants were free to invest their gold in various ways. Similarly, the mission Jesus gives all believers is broad. Considering your gifts, how are you expanding Christ's Kingdom with what He has entrusted to you?
5. Read Mt. 25:18. What are some ways we today might fail to invest what the Lord has given us?
6. The master commends the first two men identically (verses 21 and 23), despite the first gaining more gold. What does this mean?
7. Read v. 30. a) Comparing this verdict with Jesus' words in verses 21b and 23b, what does this mean? See also Mt. 22:11-14. b) How does it work that we are saved by grace, not works (Ephesians 2:8-9), yet Mt. 25:30 indicates complete disobedience and lack of fruit results in eternal punishment? See James 2:14-26.

APPLICATION

8. Reflecting on the parable:
 - a. How do I know I am ready for the Lord's return?
 - b. How am I serving the Lord?
 - c. Am I serving others because I love the Lord or for my benefit?

CULTIVATE - STEWARDSHIP

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- I. Whatever you have, it's **UNIQUELY** from the Lord

- II. Whatever you do, it's **ULTIMATELY** for the Lord

Col 3:23

- III. Whatever you do, it's **FAITHFULNESS** that matters

Will we be commended for our **FAITHFULNESS**
or will be condemned in our **LAZINESS**?

- IV. Wherever you are lacking, it begins by **TRUSTING** God

Pr 3:5-6, 9-10; Lk 12:48