

Introduction

While each of us is uniquely resourced, we are all called to the same purpose: invest toward eternity. It is too easy to take what we have and squander it on the temporary or for selfish gain. There is more to life than the here and now, and eternity is definitely longer than the temporary-now. But how can we invest what we have wisely?

Discussion Topics

Read Matthew 25:14-30

- In verses 14-15, what does it say about the money given to the servants? What about the servants themselves?
 - Within your group, do you share some talents with others?
 What is different among you?
 - Have you ever sought after something (a talent, skill, etc.) that another had? Why?
- Further along, the master returns and brings the servants back in to make an accounting of their performance.
 - In the context of your daily life, how would you expect the master to treat the servants? Do your expectations line up with the reality that Jesus is expressing? Why or why not?
- Why do you suppose the third servant was called "lazy" and "wicked"?
 - What similarities do you think you share with any or all of the the servants?

For more on investing into eternity, read Jesus's continued challenge in <u>Matthew 25:31-46</u>.

Moving Forward

While we are called to invest and put our skills, treasures, talents, etc. into the future, it can be really easy to look around and think you don't have what it takes to make a difference, especially when *compared* to someone else. Write out, "God's not calling me to comparison, He's calling me to action" and stick it somewhere to help you remember that comparison is a trap, and God is **for you!**