

**Work Your 2 – Easter Service**  
**Pastor Ken Claytor**  
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## **Introduction**

Matthew 25:14-30 is a parable of the talents. It explains to us what the Kingdom of God is like. Matthew also contains valuable principles. In The NKJV it uses the word 'talent' as basically a form of money. In the NIV version they change it to 'bags of gold' which is accurate, but limiting. We should learn that this is not just about money, but anything that God puts in our hands. All gifts and talent, as well as money.

## **Mathew 25:14-30 [NIV]**

<sup>14</sup> "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup> So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup> But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

<sup>19</sup> "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

<sup>21</sup> "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

<sup>22</sup> "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

<sup>23</sup> "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

<sup>24</sup> "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

<sup>26</sup> "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup> Well then, you should

have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

<sup>28</sup> 'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup> For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. <sup>30</sup> And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

### **Let's do the math at the end of this story**

- The person who was the 5 talent person – now has 11.
- The person who was the 2 talent person – now has 4.
- The person who was the 1 talent person – now has nothing.

### **The 'principle' is that God is saying to us – we have to work our 2, not hide it away.**

- We might not be the prettiest – but we have to work our 2!
- We might not be the smartest – but we have to work our 2!
- We might not be the best at everything we do, but we should strive to be the best that we can be. We have to work our 2!

### **The truth is most of us are a 2:**

- We should not try to be something God has not called us to be.
- We should be grateful for what we have, there is always somebody that is worse off than us; and
- We should also be humble, because there is always somebody that is always better off than us.
- We might not be the highest performer, but everyone can be their best.
- *Here is the Key*, we have to be okay with what we have. To work our 2 we have to realize what we have been given and stop trying to be someone else.

### **How to Realize and Work Your 2**

1. **Identity** – if we know who we are, we never need to be someone else. Our identity is not found in anything else except Christ.
2. **Confidence** – it's about knowing who we are in Him and being good with that. Satan tries to chip away of our confidence in God. We should not cast away our confidence, we have to work our 2.
3. **Gratitude** – we should be grateful about our lives and what do we have.
4. **Faithfulness** – God is expecting us to take whatever he gives us and multiply it, we have to be faithful over the little before he gives us the much.
5. **Calling** – we cannot be what others are called to be or to do. We are all called by God to do the best we can and say yes to that calling, we have to work our 2.

## 1 Corinthians 12:14-31 [MSG]

<sup>14-18</sup> I want you to think about how all this makes you more significant, not less. A body isn't just a single part blown up into something huge. It's all the different-but-similar parts arranged and functioning together. If Foot said, "I'm not elegant like Hand, embellished with rings; I guess I don't belong to this body," would that make it so? If Ear said, "I'm not beautiful like Eye, limpid and expressive; I don't deserve a place on the head," would you want to remove it from the body? If the body was all eye, how could it hear? If all ear, how could it smell? As it is, we see that God has carefully placed each part of the body right where he wanted it.

<sup>19-24</sup> But I also want you to think about how this keeps your significance from getting blown up into self-importance. For no matter how significant you are, it is only because of what you are a *part* of. An enormous eye or a gigantic hand wouldn't be a body, but a monster. What we have is one body with many parts, each its proper size and in its proper place. No part is important on its own. Can you imagine Eye telling Hand, "Get lost; I don't need you"? Or, Head telling Foot, "You're fired; your job has been phased out"? As a matter of fact, in practice it works the other way—the "lower" the part, the more basic, and therefore necessary. You can live without an eye, for instance, but not without a stomach. When it's a part of your own body you are concerned with, it makes *no* difference whether the part is visible or clothed, higher or lower. You give it dignity and honor just as it is, without comparisons. If anything, you have more concern for the lower parts than the higher. If you had to choose, wouldn't you prefer good digestion to full-bodied hair?

<sup>25-26</sup> The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.

<sup>27-31</sup> You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your "part" mean anything.

### *Remember this:*

- God does not call the qualified- He qualifies the called.
- We should not feel abandoned, unnoticed, underappreciated, nor invisible - we are valuable, God sees us, we are important to him and our church, it is time we step into our calling.