

M&M's ...65 of them

We know the m&m's are not going to be more but we can have more with the less.  
Eph 3:20 *"Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely MORE than we might ask or think."*

YOU to experience more in life...

Waste it

Spend it

Invest it

### **1. OWNERSHIP: Everything I have belongs to God.**

God made it all. You really own nothing. You didn't come into this world with anything and you're not going to take anything out of this world. What you have you simply get to use for 60, 70, 80, 90 years.

Matthew 25:14 *"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them."*

God has entrusted some things to you. God owns everything.

### **2. ALLOCATION: God has given me some talents.**

Matthew 25:15 *"To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability."*

The word "talent" that we use today actually comes from this story.

Talents are abilities, resources, skills or opportunities — spiritual gifts.

Anything that God has trusted you with — your children, your job

Everybody gets something. There is no such thing as a no-talent person.

Romans 12:6 *"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us."*

You're unique. There's nobody else like you in the world.

### **3. ACCOUNTABILITY: God expects me to use them.**

Matthew 25:19 *"After a long time the master of the servants came back and settled accounts with them."*

God has made an investment in your life and he wants a return.

God is going to do an account — an audit — of your life. Are you ready for that? God is going to ask you, "What did you do with what I gave you?" You didn't choose to be born in America and enjoy the freedom you have here, what did you do with it? The greater the privilege the greater the responsibility.

### **4. UTILIZATION: It's wrong to bury what God gave me.**

The first man took his money and doubled it — a 100 percent return.

This man was a wise investor. The second guy took his two grand and he doubled it.

The point of the story is the third guy. The third guy just buries it. He does nothing.

Matthew 25:18 *"But the man who had received one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money."* He's cautious and conservative. He says, "I'm going to play it safe!" He sat on it.

What was his master's reaction? "

Matthew 25:26 *His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant. '"*

This is the sin of inactivity, the sin of passivity.

Rom 14:23 *"everything that does not come from faith is sin."*

### **5. MOTIVATION: Fear keeps me from developing my talent.**

Matthew 25:25 *"I was afraid and went out and hid your talent."*

Why do we play it safe? It's really fear — Satan's favorite tactics....

**Self-doubt** — "I could never do that; I'm not qualified." It's the fear of failure. God says that's fine for kids but it doesn't cut it as an adult! Don't let fear get in the way.

**Self-pity** — "I've failed in the past so many times.

I tried serving God but there were so many hypocrites...Ill. No more Gym-Fat there

There are two ways to respond to failure — as exemplified by Judas and Peter?

**Self-consciousness** — "What will other people think? If I give my life completely to God, will I become a fanatic?"

Proverbs 29:25 *"The fear of man brings a snare"* — it's a trap.

Fear causes me to make excuses for doing nothing.

Matthew 25:24 *"Then the man who had received one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew you were a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered.'"*

Boss, The reason why I didn't make any profit on my money is your fault!

**6. APPLICATION: If I don't use it, I lose it.**

— time, money, effort, energy, talent or abilities. If you don't use it, you lose it.

Matthew 25:28 *"The master says, 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents.'"*

That doesn't seem fair! The rich get richer and the talented get more talented.

It's a universal law: if I don't use my muscles I lose my muscles.

If I don't use my mind, I lose it — it becomes mentally dull.

If I don't use the opportunities God has given me I lose the opportunities.

If I don't practice my talent, I lose my talent. Use it or lose it.

If you find you need more energy, use it for God and watch what happens.

If I need more time, I give my time to God.

If I need more money, I give my money to God.

If I need more talent, I give my talent to God.

**7. COMPENSATION: If I use my talents, I'm going to be rewarded.**

This is the test. This is why you're here on earth. The rewards:

Matthew 25:21 *"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!'"*

God promises three rewards:

**Affirmation** — "Well done." I can't think of anything better than to stand before Jesus Christ and have him say, "Good job!"

**Promotion** — He says, "I'm going to give you greater responsibility. You've been faithful with little things; I'll trust you with more." God can't trust many of us with great blessings because we're not faithful with the little.

**Celebration** — He says, "Come and share your master's happiness." The happiest people I know are those who are using what they have for God.

When God does an audit on your life — and it is coming — is it going to show a profit or a loss? A negative or positive? Is he going to say, "Well done!" or "Lazy servant!" What's it going to show?