

Message Notes | Mission Builders

Part 2: The Opportunity in Front of Us

Matthew 25:14-30

→ 94 million

#1 Every one of us has opportunities right in front of us.

→ the parable of the talents – **Matthew 25:14-30**

#2 God has generously entrusted us with resources to manage and use for his glory.

→ different reactions by different servants - **vs. 16-18**

→ what was the real issue for the third servant? - **vs. 24-25**

→ get to know the real Jesus

#3 When you know Jesus, what matters to him matters to you.

#4 Use what is temporary to make a difference that is eternal.

→ there are opportunities all around us.

Group Questions | Mission Builders

Part 2: The Opportunity in Front of Us

Matthew 25:14-30

1. What’s an opportunity you’ve had in your life that you’re really glad you took? What made you recognize it as an opportunity?
2. **Read Matthew 25:14–30.** What stands out to you in this parable? What do you find encouraging, challenging, or even confusing?
3. The sermon talked about our money, abilities, possessions, position, relationships, and time as resources God has entrusted to us. Which of those is easiest for you to see as something God has given you to use? Which is hardest?
4. **Review Matthew 25:14–23.** The servants were entrusted with different amounts, yet the first two received the same response from the master. What does that teach us about comparison and what God actually asks of us?
5. **Review Matthew 25:24–30.** How did the third servant view his master? How did what he believed about the master affect what he did with what he'd been given?

What are some inaccurate pictures of God that people can carry? How can those beliefs affect the way we live?
6. We talked about the temptation to ask, “How can I use this for me?” rather than, “How could God use this?” Where do you see that tension most in your own life: money, time, abilities, career, relationships, possessions, or somewhere else?
7. The sermon imagined telling the third servant, “*You don’t know my Jesus.*” What are some examples from Jesus’ life that show what He is actually like? How does knowing that change the way we respond to him?
8. The final challenge was, “*Use what is temporary to make a difference that is eternal.*” What is one resource or opportunity God has put in your hands right now that you could more intentionally use to love someone, serve someone, or point someone toward Jesus this week?

Bible Reading

Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ 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.’ 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!’ ²² “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.’ ²³ “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!’ ²⁴ “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. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ ²⁶ “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? ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ “‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’