

What in the world are you doing?

*MT 5:14 "You are the **light of the world**. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*

I.) Each one of us has unique talents, abilities, and gifts. We all have the same calling, to bring glory to God. MT 25:14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five **talents** of money, to another two **talents**, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received the five **talents** went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with the two **talents** gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

A.) We may not be equal in ability, but everyone is equal in

Importance. RO 12:3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the **measure of faith** God has given you. ⁴ Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷ If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸ if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

B.) Our attitude towards our calling is what is important. 2CO 8:10 And here is my advice about what is best for you in this matter: Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹ Now **finish** the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. ¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

II.) We will have to give an account of how we used (or didn't use)

theses gifts. RO 14:9 For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰ You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. ¹¹ It is written: " `As surely as I live,' says the Lord, `every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.' "

RO 14:12 So then, each of us will **give an account** of himself to God.

A.) We do not know when our Lord will return, that is why we must be diligent now! MT 25:19 "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.

B.) He will return with a reward. REV 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon! My **reward** is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

C.) If he returned today, what would he say to you? ²⁰ The man who had received the five **talents** brought the other five. `Master,' he said, `you entrusted me with five **talents**. See, I have gained five more.'

MT 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!'

MT 25:22 "The man with the two **talents** also came. `Master,' he said, `you entrusted me with two **talents**; see, I have gained two more.'

MT 25:23 "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!'

MT 25:24 "Then the man who had received the one talent 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 talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

MT 25:26 "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.

MT 25:28 " `Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten **talents**. ²⁹ For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

III.) Openly praise God for all that he has done.

A.) *PS 9:1 I will **praise** you, O LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. PS 9:2 I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing **praise** to your name, O Most High.*

B.) *Doing good in this world with praise on our lips! HEB 13:15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of **praise**--the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

IV.) Openly pray to the Lord unashamedly.

A.) In times of trouble: *JAMES 5:13 Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of **praise**.*

B.) When we are sick: *¹⁴ Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*

C.) Pray in the spirit:

*JUDE 1:20 But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and **pray** in the Holy Spirit. ²¹ Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.*

V.) Preach the gospel:

A.) Acts10:⁴² *He commanded us to **preach** to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."*

B.) witness: Acts 1:⁸ *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*