



## Repentance Tabernacle Church

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### My Part in the Kingdom of God

**Focus Verses:** Matthew 25:14-15 - <sup>14</sup>For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. <sup>15</sup>And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 25:14-30

**Truth About God:** God gives all believers responsibility in His kingdom.

**Truth For My Life:** I will do my part to advance the kingdom of God.

The Parable of the Talents, *“Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents”* (Matthew 25:16). When his master returned, *“behold, I have gained beside them five talents more,”* and said, *“Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord”* (Matthew 25:20-21).

*“And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two”* (Matthew 25:17). Although he was given less and gained less than the first servant. When the master returned, *“he also gained other two,”* and said, *“Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord”* (Matthew 25:22-23).

*“But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money”* (Matthew 25:18). The master said, *“Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents”* (Matthew 25:26-28).

Jesus stated, *“For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth”* (Matthew 25:29-30).

Jesus knew them, and he knew what they could do. He knew they were different, and they came with their own gifts. Jesus did not underestimate the first servant by giving him too little; neither did he overwhelm the second servant by giving him too much. That is why he gave them differing gifts according to their differing abilities to be a blessing with what they were given.

Clearly in this parable, the master represents our Lord, and the talents represent the gifts He gives. We do not deserve more than we have and should not bemoan anyone for having more than we have. All of the gifts God gives—gifts to sing, preach, teach, administer, easily make friends, easily make money, work with our hands, work with our minds—belong to God. And all of the gifts God gives—our houses, our vehicles, our clothes, our food—belonged to God before He ever gave them to us. We should use these gifts for God's glory.

Do not be jealous or resentful. Jesus knows what we can handle, so He will not underestimate our ability by giving us too little or overwhelm our ability by giving us too much. It may be honesty, it may be humility, it may be a little bit of both, but few of us would profess to be a five-talent servant. Whatever gifts God gave you, use the gifts to give glory to Him. This parable points out there is room for five-talent servants in the kingdom of God. And for two-talents servants. And for one-talent servants.

James was right to write, *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning”* (James 1:17). James summed up the principle of this parable: every gift we have comes from God and should be used to glorify God and to bless His kingdom.

Jesus was letting us know what matters to Him. It is not what we have or how much we have; it is what we do with what we have. Jesus said in Luke 12:48, *“For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.”* Use your gifts to bring glory to God. There is great joy in glorifying God and using His gifts to make disciples for Him.

**What will you do with the gifts God has given you to glorify Him and bless His kingdom?**