

Americas' Got Talent

SERIES: "FROM PARABLES TO PRINCIPLES"
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KEY VERSE

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. 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. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 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.' "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!' "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.' "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!' "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. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' "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? 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. "Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. 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. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
-Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)

THREE ESSENTIAL LESSONS REGARDING YOUR GOD-GIVEN TALENT:

1. God _____ me: with _____ talent.

God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well.
-Romans 12:6a (NLT)

Christ has generously divided out his gifts to us.
-Ephesians 4:7 (CEV)

It is the one and only Holy Spirit who distributes these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.
-1 Corinthians 12:11 (NLT)

2. God _____ me: with talent to be _____.

God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings.
-1 Peter 4:10 (TLB)

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts...different ways of serving... [and] different abilities to perform service."
-1 Corinthians 12:4 (TEV)

...Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.
-1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)

3. God _____ me: to _____ Him by serving in His _____.

Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give my life as a ransom for many."
-Matthew 20:28 (TLB)

Points from the parable:

1. God _____ everyone _____.
2. God _____ everyone to _____ their talent.
3. God _____ those who _____ their talent.
4. God _____ those who _____ their talent.

ANSWER KEY:

Equipped/Natural; Entrusted/Serve/Family or Believers; Gives/Talent; Expects/Use; Rewards/Use; Judges/Ignore