

PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

MATTHEW 25:14-30 - ERIC SIMPSON - NOVEMBER 13, 2016

"Lord, help me do great things as though they were little, since I do them with your power; and little things as though they were great, since I do them in your name."

—Blaise Pascal

God distributes ➤ **talents as He sees fit.**

He decides who gets what talent and to what degree.

God expects us to ➤ **be diligent with what we've been given.**

Whether we're a 1-talent, 2-talent, or 5-talent person; God desires faithful stewardship with what we do have.

We tend to covet ➤ **what we don't have instead of being faithful with what we do have.**

"I am surrounded by people who have received from the Master more talents than he's given to me. They read faster, write faster, write better, have brighter intellects, have better memories, get more done, are more efficient administrators, more creative, more effective preachers, and on and on. I am regularly tempted to covet the talents others have and wonder why my Master didn't give me more talents. I don't always recognize this as coveting, though. The way it typically manifests in me is discouragement and self-pity. Emotionally, I feel like a loser...And it's all fueled by pride. All that feeling bad about myself, it's all about *me*. It's a form of self-worship. Gone is love for my Master. Gone is love for anyone else. Gone is the wonder over the grace that I received *anything* from the Master at all. Gone is the realization that even one talent is a huge amount and way more than I deserve to steward and only looks small compared to multiple talents that others have." —Jon Bloom

Psalms 16:5-6

⁵*LORD, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure.*

⁶*The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.*

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(learn more about Safe Families, orphan care ministry. etc)