

Investing Your Life (Matthew 25:14-30)

Basic Training – Part 10

Life Church St. Louis – November 15, 2015

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2 Timothy 2:3-4 (NIV) Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs--he wants to please his commanding officer.

Matthew 25:1 (NIV) "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ...

1. God has entrusted _____ to you

Matthew 25:14 (NIV) "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them.

1A. God has _____ your resources with your abilities

Matthew 25:15 (NIV) 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.

1B. Put your resources to _____ for God

Matthew 25:16-18 (NIV) 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.

2. You must give an _____ for your entrusted resources

Matthew 25:19 (NIV) "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.

2A. Your _____ in this life determines your eternity

Matthew 25:20-21 (NIV) 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!'

2B. Be _____ and you will be given more

Matthew 25:22-23 (NIV) "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!'

3. _____ and fear leads to misusing God's resources

Matthew 25:24-25 (NIV) "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.'

3A. God requires a _____ on His resources

Matthew 25:26-27 (NIV) "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.'

3B. Don't keep God's resources for yourself or you will lose _____

Matthew 25:28-30 (NIV) "'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.'

Investing Your Life (Matthew 25:14-30) Study Guide

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Intro. What does Jesus' promise in Matthew 6:33 mean for us as soldiers in God's army?

What are "civilian affairs" that we should not be involved in as Christ's soldiers (2 Timothy 2:3-4)?

How can the concept of being a soldier for God help you in your life as a believer?

1A. What is the difference between the master entrusting his property to his servants versus giving it to them (Matthew 25:14)?

1B. According to Matthew 25:15, why do different believers receive different amounts of resources in life?

1C. What does it mean to put the resources that God has entrusted to you to work (Matthew 25:16-17)?

1D. What was the difference in attitudes between the first two servants and the last one (Matthew 25:18)?

1E. What difference should it make in your life to recognize that everything you have is God's?

2A. How does the knowledge that you will have to give an account to God of your use of His resources make a difference to you today (Matthew 25:19)?

2B. Since we're saved by faith, how can Jesus determine our eternity by the profit we produce with the resources entrusted to us (Matthew 25:20-21)?

2C. Why did the second servant who only had gained two talents receive the same reward as the first servant (Matthew 25:22-23)?

2D. How can you double the resources that God has entrusted to you?

3A. What was wrong with the attitude of the third servant (Matthew 25:24-25)?

3B. What was God's assessment of what the third servant had done with his life and the resources entrusted to him (Matthew 25:26-27)?

3C. Why did the master take the talent from the third servant and give it to the first servant (Matthew 25:28-29)?

3D. What was the eternal fate of the third servant (Matthew 25:30)? Do you think that he expected what he heard?

3E. How can you grow in being faithful with the resources that God has entrusted to you?