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December



Join us for our Christmas Eve service on 3PM at Sunpac



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BRISBANE

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GENEROUS

WEEK 3 | Daylight at the candle factory, Stewarding the shine

WORD

¹⁴For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Matthew 25:14-30

We need to steward the investment of that which God has entrusted to us with generosity

1 It is God who blesses us

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Matthew 25:14-18

In the parable we see God, out of His relationship with us, blessing us individually. Not all received the same, but all received from God. This is such an important perspective to have when it comes to finances. This ensures that we have trust and security in what can be such a sensitive area of our lives. When we know and understand that ultimately it is God who provides, not our job, partners or our own luck or ability we have much more appreciation. We also see his heart not just for us but for other, that he blesses us to be a blessing. He gives intentionally and we also need to be intentional as seen in this parable. secure you?

2 We are accountable with the blessing

¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone

who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Matthew 25:19-30

We see a confirmation that “our” money is not really our own when God Himself comes to settle and judge what we have done with it. This highlights the principle of stewarding faithfully. When we see money as not our own but God's it is much easier to understand this. Money can be used like a seed and when we sow it generously the Bible says we will reap even more blessing. This is seen with the man who had five got five more, and the man with two another two. There is a multiplication through faithfully stewarding God's money with generosity. The principle of sowing and reaping is a Kingdom truth that works! We see a warning at the end of this parable, with the servant who was not faithful with God's money being judged a wicked lazy servant and being cast out of His presence for eternity. Being a generous and faithful steward is rewarded, being unfaithful and lazy is punished.

APPLICATION

- How has God blessed you financially? Can you share some testimonies of His faithfulness to you?
- Do you understand that financial security ultimately comes from God? Do you trust Him to be a faithful provider?
- Share some examples of being faithful and generous with money, eg: tithing, offering, helping others?

PRAYER

- What a you believing for financially.
- Pray to hand over trust completely to God in the area of finances.
- Pray to have a generous heart, and to be a faithful steward.
- Pray for opportunities to partner with God and generously bless others.