

gathering crops you didn't cultivate. 25 I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.'

26 "But the master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn't plant and gathered crops I didn't cultivate, 27 why didn't you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.'

28 "Then he ordered, 'Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. 29 To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. 30 Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

- 4) What is the main lesson of the parable of the talents? How can we use the talents? God has given us for his kingdom this week?
- 5) Why does the master give each servant different amounts, and what does that tell us about people?
- 6) What do the first two servants have in common with what they did with their talents?
- 7) Where are you seeing progress in what God has entrusted to you, even if it feels small? How does this encourage you to keep being faithful?
- 8) What did the last servant do? What assumptions did he make about the master's character or what he thought the master's character was? Have you ever had a similar assumption about God's character?
- 9) What was the truth about the master?

CHAIR TIME TOOLS



Think and pray through the following:

- 1) Is there anything in your heart that is like the last servant? Do you have a misunderstanding about the heart of our master?
- 2) Is there something that God wants you to start or to stop with your relationship to money?
- 3) Who can you reach out to and encourage this week?

Entrusted

God's Heart on Money

Pastor Craig Sweeney | October 27, 2024

The BIG question from Week 1: WHO is your source?

Thread: God has entrusted me with His resources.

"Again, The Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip."

Matthew 25:14 – 15 NLT

We do not all have the same "abilities."

We do not have the same resources entrusted to us.

Matthew 25:16–29 NLT

Each one was entrusted with the same expectation.

"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' ... 'When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'"

Matthew 25:31 – 40 NLT

Your heart is connected to how you think about money. What's in your heart?

(Each resource is limited and finite.)

What resources are we talking about?

Jesus mentions at least 4:

- Life
- Responsibility
- Finances
- Attention

Thread: God has entrusted me with His resources, so I'm going to have an attitude about it.

Challenge:

-How would your thoughts change if you believed God owns it all and gave you some?

-Are my thoughts about my resources in alignment with God's heart?

-How would you steward the resources in your life if you believed they were entrusted to you by God?

-Do I view money as an owner or a steward—as one who has been entrusted?

For practical, cross-cultural Bible studies related to sermon topics, visit Dougbrittonbooks.com/resources

Life Group Homework

Entrusted

Fall 2024 | Week 7

Message Date 10/27/2024

MY STORY



- 1) What is your favorite and least favorite holiday dish, and why?
- 2) Would you rather live without heat and AC or live without social media?

QUICK REVIEW



- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME



Matthew 25:14-30 (NLT)

14 "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. 15 He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.

16 "The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. 17 The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. 18 But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money.

19 "After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. 20 The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, 'Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.'

21 "The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

22 "The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.'

23 "The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

24 "Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, 'Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn't plant and