

When We Give We Fulfill the Master's Mandate

In the Parable of the Talents, recorded In Matthew 25:14-30, our Lord confronts us with 3 Truths about His expectations of how we live our lives.

Truth #1 Challenging _____ verses 14-19

- Our Lord has assigned to us enormous _____.
Money Phone Clothes TV/Entertainment System House/Apartment
Time Body Mind Abilities Knowledge Experience
Faith Access to God Spiritual Gifts Relationships Influence
- I am a _____, not the _____.
- Our Lord will return to judge how I've managed His _____.

Truth #2 Responsive _____ verses 19-30

- Our Lord will not be pleased with how much I _____
or how much I _____.
- Our Lord will be pleased with how much I _____, how much I _____.



Truth #3 Obedient _____ verses 15-17

- I must invest _____.

- I don't know how much _____ I have and I don't know how much _____ it will _____.

Applying These Truths

1. *How would you summarize the difference between a master and a manager?*
2. *Some people tell themselves, "I don't even have enough for myself yet. When I have more, then I'll start giving." They may be thinking about time, or money, or abilities, or some other resource. If they asked what you think about this attitude, how might you respond?*
3. *Why do you feel Lord Jesus included the detail in this parable that the first servant began **immediately** to work with the resources he had been assigned?*
4. *Why do you believe the master's response to the first two servants in the story is the same even though one earned more than twice as much as the other?*
5. *If today were the day when you were called before Lord Jesus to account for how you've managed the resources He's assigned to you, what would be His conclusion about what you've done with what you've been given?*
6. *How could you invest resources our Lord has assigned to you in support of your home church's ministry?*
7. *What are other ways you can invest resources our Lord has given you to advance His purposes?*