

Faithful with Resources

Message from 1/19/25

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

²⁰ *"The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'*

²¹ *"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!'*

²⁴ *"Then the man who had received one bag of gold 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. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'*

²⁶ *"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? ²⁷ 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.'*

Matthew 25 NIV, excerpts

BIG IDEA:

Faithfulness with resources means treating every resource as an opportunity to multiply.

1. God has entrusted us with an abundance.
2. We're to multiply what we've been given.

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Daniel Pink's survey showed regrets of omission were greater than commission. Did this surprise you? Agree or disagree?
- Share a regret you have (can be something small or big).

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- Which word or phrase from the Key Scriptures speaks to you most?

Start sharing. Choose a few questions to create openness.

- "By the world's standards, every person in this room is an overachiever, multi-talented, and wealthy." And God sees you as highly capable and that's why you've been richly resourced. Have you ever thought of yourself as highly capable? How does it impact you to know that God sees you as highly capable?
- You've been resourced with spiritual gifts, natural abilities, learned skills, opportunities and experiences, as well as financial and material resources. Share about a time you used one of these resources to bless others.
- The servants who multiplied their resources entered into their master's happiness. Is there a time in your life when you experienced joy as you've offered your resources?
- Is there a resource that God might want you to start using?

Start doing. Commit to a step that you will live out this week.

- Assess what resources you've been entrusted with and put one into practice to serve the church body or your neighbors.
- Invite a small group member to join you in utilizing a resource for the benefit of others.

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power for each other.

God, thank you for entrusting us with so much abundance. You've given us all this for us to steward well and to share with others, so that their lives would be enriched, and so that they would come to know you, the one true God who loves them with an everlasting love. So, we pray that you would open our eyes to see how well resourced and well equipped we are. And then show us how we can be faithful to you with those resources. Help us recognize that when we make use of what you've given us, that's where we will find true joy. In Jesus' name, amen.