



Week 2, Day 4:

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.

Matthew 25:15 (NLT)

The most overlooked part of the parable of the talents is the second half of verse fifteen: the master gives talents to each servant, "...each according to his ability." The master understood that the one-talent servant was not capable of producing as much as the five-talent servant.

We want to protest this as unfair. Yet we know this is true from our own experience.

Like the servants in the parable of the talents, God has given each of us unique resources and talents to be used in everything we do, especially our vocational callings. The master gave out a different number of talents to each servant "according to the servant's ability." The one talent servant was not expected to produce five talents.

Success according to God's standards is faithfully using all gifts, talents, and opportunities God has given us to further his kingdom here on earth. This work should bring us both joy and peace of mind knowing we have done our best, through the power of Christ working through us, to accomplish what he has called us to do in order to make a difference in our world.

As Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:10, "*For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*"

TAKE ACTION:

Consider spending some time in prayer and with trusted friends or family members to consider how God is challenging you to use your time, talents and treasure during this Built to Last journey.

Sign up for the 24-hour Prayer Experience taking place on November 4 and 5.