

“YOU’VE GOT TO BE IN WIN IT”

Series: “How Invested Are You?” – Part 2

One Life Campaign

Matthew 25:14-30

April 12 and 13, 2008

Open It

1. If someone were ask you how much more money you would need to lead a comfortable life, what would your answer be?
2. If you were told you were going to start bringing home \$200 less each month, what are some of the things you would cut out of your monthly routine to make ends meet?
3. Did you grow up in a home where your parents tithed or gave money to the church? How has that influenced your views toward supporting the work of the church and the *One Life Campaign*?

Explore It

1. Read Matthew 25:14-30, then answer the following questions.
 - a. What criterion did the master use to determine how much to give to each slave?
 - b. How did the master respond to the slaves who were able to double their master’s money?
 - c. Does it seem out of place that the master gives the same commendation to the slaves that started with five talents and two talents? Why or why not?
 - d. What kept the slave who was given one talent from doing anything with the money?
 - e. Why was the master angry with this slave?

2. What do these examples from the Bible teach us about how people gave to the kingdom?
 - a. Luke 8:3
 - b. Acts 2:45
 - c. Acts 4:37
3. What do the following verses tell us about how we should treat the resources that God has entrusted to us?
 - a. Prov. 13:11
 - b. Prov. 14:23
 - c. Matt. 6:19-21
 - d. Luke 12:15
 - e. 1 Tim. 6:10
4. Read the following verses that explain how God wants us to view wealth and possessions. What do they teach us?
 - a. Prov. 28:25
 - b. Prov. 28:6
 - c. 1 Cor. 13:3
 - d. Heb 13:5

Get It

1. Sometimes, when we see others with more money or possessions than we have, it is easy to become jealous or resentful of them.
 - a. Do you ever find yourself falling into this trap? How do you deal with these emotions when they come?
 - b. Does your jealousy ever lead you to self-justification where you say things like, “Well, at least I am morethan they are?”
2. At other times, our apparent wealth compared to others can lead to haughtiness toward those who have less. What danger do we run into if we use money or possessions as the barometer by which we judge people?

3. How does the financial status you grew up with shape your views toward giving and possessions today?
4. Regardless of how long you have attended Grace Fellowship, you are a recipient of the past generosity of people who have invested in the infrastructure of our church. Whether or not you intend to get plugged into the Halfmoon campus, how does the past generosity of other church members motivate you to get involved in the current campaign?
5. One thing this parable teaches us is that regardless of how much we have been given, God expects us to be faithful stewards of what he has provided and invest it for his work. How does this knowledge comfort or concern you as we work to prepare the Halfmoon facility for ministry?

Apply It

1. Based on today's lesson, do your views on stewardship need to be modified? If so, how?

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Saturday, April 12, 2008

Sunday, April 13, 2008

Bullet: "Jesus calls us to be risk-takers all of our lives for Him!"

Text: Matthew 25:14-30

THE FIVE-TALENT PERSON:

THE TWO-TALENT PERSON:

Two strong temptations of the two-talent person:

1. _____ the five-talent person.
2. Have a _____ spirit toward the one-talent person.

THE ONE-TALENT PERSON:

#1 He was _____.

#2 He was _____.

#3 He was _____.

#4 He was _____.