

Small Group Discussion Guide
Parable of the Talents

Icebreaker:

- Are you more of a saver or a spender?
- What was your best subject or favorite activity in school?

The term "talent" was first used for a unit of weight, then for a unit of coins. The present day use of "talent" as an ability comes from this parable. As you listen to the parable, think about what Jesus might say to you about taking responsibility for your time, money and abilities.

Read: Matthew 25:14-29

1. Which of the three servants in this parable can you relate to most?
a) the one who was given five talents — I've been greatly blessed b) the one who was given two talents — I've done okay with what I've had to work with c) the one who was given one talent — I always get the short end!
2. What is your opinion of the master in this story?
3. Why was the master so hard on the servant who hide his talent?
4. What is the parable's message?
5. How do you feel when you are given a lot of responsibility?
a) nervous — I hope I do not blow it! b) proud — people believe in me! c) confident — I can handle it! d) overwhelmed — I cannot handle it!
6. Which of the following statements describes how you feel about the way you are "investing" your life?
a) I am quite satisfied b) I'd like to make some changes c) I'm not sure what it means to invest my life d) I'm not being very responsible in this area e) I feel like I'm on hold
7. If the Master returned today, how much of your talents and potential would he say you are using for Him right now?
a) sorry you asked b) maybe 5% c) I would say 50% d) I'm giving it all I've got e) other
9. How can this group pray for you this coming week?