

USE IT OR LOSE IT  
SAVED TO SERVE - Part 3  
Vernon Zook March 17, 2019

Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a trip. He called together his servants and gave them money to invest for him while he was gone. He gave five bags of gold to one, two bags of gold to another, and one bag of gold to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities—and then left on his trip. The servant who received the five bags of gold began immediately to invest the money and soon doubled it. The servant with two bags of gold also went right to work and doubled the money. But the servant who received the one bag of gold dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money for safekeeping. "After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of gold said, 'Sir, you gave me five bags of gold to invest, and I have doubled the amount.' The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!' "Next came the servant who had received the two bags of gold, with the report, 'Sir, you gave me two bags of gold to invest, and I have doubled the amount.' The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!' "Then the servant with the one bag of gold came and said, 'Sir, I know you are a hard man, harvesting crops you didn't plant and gathering crops you didn't cultivate. I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth and here it is.' "But the master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! You think I'm a hard man, do you, harvesting crops I didn't plant and gathering crops I didn't cultivate? Well, you should at least have put my money into the bank so I could have some interest. Take the money from this servant and give it to the one with the ten bags of gold. To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who are unfaithful, even what little they have will be taken away. Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Matthew 25:14-30 (NLT)

## SOME LESSONS TO APPLY FROM THIS PARABLE:

### 1. I NEED TO INVEST WHAT GOD GIVES ME.

He called together his servants and gave them money to invest for him while he was gone...The servant who received the five bags of gold began immediately to invest the money and soon doubled it. The servant with two bags of gold also went right to work and doubled the money.

Vs. 14b, 16-17

### 2. GOD WILL MULTIPLE WHAT I INVEST FOR HIM.

To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance.

Vs. 29a

### 3. IF I DON'T USE IT I WILL LOSE IT.

Take the money from this servant and give it to the one with the ten bags of gold...But from those who are unfaithful, even what little they have will be taken away.

Vs. 28, 29b

### 4. I WILL FACE JUDGMENT FOR MY LIFE.

For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NLT)

Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Vs. 30

The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

Vs. 23

Do not let any part of your body become a tool of wickedness, to be used for sinning. Instead, give yourselves completely to God since you have been given new life. And use your whole body as a tool to do what is right for the glory of God.

Romans 6:13 (NLT)

**I want to hear: "Well done, good and faithful servant."**