# Week 2 - 08-28-24 EQUIP - Faithful Stewards Are Blessed

Week 2 - 08-28-24 EQUIP - Faithful Stewards Are Blessed

---

## 1 INTRO

**APPLICATION**

WELCOME

PRAY

LAST WEEK RECAP:

Who's The Owner?

God is the owner - We are the managers

## 2

**EXPLANATION**

### Week 2 - Faithful Stewards Are Blessed

**QUESTION:**

How would you define faithfulness?

How about **Multiplication**?

I will show you the direct connection between faithfulness and multiplication.

Jesus addresses our role as a manager of God's resources in Matthew's parable of the talents.

Jesus uses this parable to teach believers how heaven operates.

The “talent” Jesus is talking about is money.

NLT says specifically that it was **bags of silver.**

**Talent** – Greek – talanton – a unit of measure for gold and silver.

One talent of silver = **75 pounds** - today’s value - **$47,950**

- Jesus is talking about substantial amounts entrusted to servants.
- God has entrusted substantial amounts of resources to us.

---

**3**

EXPLANATION

**The Parable of the Talents**

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.

Matthew 25:14-15 (NKJV)

He (God) gave a sum of money to each servant.

The master gives resources based on our ability – Not feelings, emotions or culture’s idea of fair.

That is God’s protection for those who do not steward well.

It is also God’s encouragement to learn to steward well.

He will give more to steward as your ability increases.

Then he who had received the **five talents** went and traded with them and made another five talents. And likewise, he who *had received* **two gained** two more also.

Matthew 25:16-17 (NKJV)

These two servants were smart!

The master entrusted his property with them.

They stewarded it well by investing it wisely!

After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

Matthew 25:19 (NKJV)

**NOTE**: Jesus will come back and hold us accountable to how we handled what He entrusted to us!

Everyone will stand before God in judgement.

(Remember, God is the owner)

4

EXPLANATION

This is the master’s response to the two servants

“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have **gained five more talents** besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘**Well *done,* good and faithful servant;** you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’

Matthew 25:20-21 (NKJV)

That’s a great response from the master to the servant who had the **five** talents.

**NOTE**: The master’s response is the only place we see this phrase in Scripture:

**Well *done,* good and faithful servant**

And it’s in reference to stewarding money well.

He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have **gained two more talents** besides them.’ His lord said to him, **‘Well *done*, good and faithful servant**; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’

Matthew 25:22-23 (NKJV)

Now look at the master’s response to the servant with **two** talents:

The master repeats,

**Well *done*, good and faithful servant**

Both also received the same reward for their healthy stewardship:

you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.

Enter into the joy of your lord.’

Because of their faithfulness, both received amounts relative to their ability as healthy stewards.

**NOTE:** There are millionaires who do not steward well and people who live on small incomes who do!

According to the National Endowment for Financial Education, 70% of lottery winners go bankrupt within a few years.

---

## 5

### EXPLANATION

The master’s reaction to the third servant is extremely different.

But he who had received one went and dug in the ground and hid his lord’s money.

Matthew 25:18 (NKJV)

Who’s money?

God's money!

"Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, *there* you have *what is* yours.'

"But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.

Matthew 25:24-28 (NKJV)

Third servant is trying to flip the script on the master to justify why he hid the talent.

So, it's the master's fault that the third servant was an unhealthy steward.

The master is not agreeing with the servant's accusations – he's saying even it is true what you say, you still could have done more than what he did, which was nothing.

The master says, You wicked and lazy servant,

Not just wicked by making a false allegation against him, but the master goes further and calls him lazy.

Too many people fail to steward well out of sheer laziness.

**Proverbs 10:4**: "Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth."

**Proverbs 12:24**: "Diligent hands will rule, but laziness ends in forced labor."

**Proverbs 19:15**: "Laziness brings on deep sleep, and the shiftless go hungry."

6

APPLICATION

Are you stewarding God’s resources through fear?

It’s common we steward our marriages, kids and careers out of fear.

When we accept that God is the Owner, we stop clutching our STUFF in fear and start stewarding in faith.

So take the talent from him and give *it* to him who has ten talents.

Mathew 25:28

Kingdom provision is not about sharing the wealth. Kingdom is NOT Socialism.

It is about giving to those who are faithful, healthy stewards growing the kingdom.

There is no choice but to multiply God’s kingdom – we either gain and get or be lazy and lose.

Jesus makes it very clear:

For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Matthew 25:29-30 (NKJV)

7

APPLICATION

**Discussion Questions:**

How does your relationship with God currently affect the way you manage money?

Have you considered one of the reasons that God hasn’t answered your prayers, is because He knows you can’t handle it yet?

“If I could just get ahead of my bills.”

And then what?

A poor steward falls behind again and the hole gets bigger each time.

Pray instead of a handout that you become a healthy steward.”

**We all have the power to increase our ability!**

How do we do this?

- Begin with stewarding well.
- If you need to grow your skills, do that.
- If you need to go back to school, do that.
- If you need help and wisdom, ask.
- Do whatever God is calling you to do!
- If you want to be entrusted with more, you have to manage what you have well!

## 8 CLOSING

### APPLICATION

PRAYER: