Sunday, October 25, 2026

The Pursuit of Generosity

"YOU'VE GOT TALENTS"

Pastor Mike Anderson

What was a "talent" worth in Jesus' day?

In Jesus' time, a "*talent*" was a heavy unit of weight used for measuring gold or silver. A single talent of gold or silver represented an enormous amount of money, equal to roughly **15 to 20 years of wages for a daily worker.** The modern English word "*talent*", meaning an innate, personal skill, or gift has evolved from this very parable. While today in the church we expand the meaning to the use of our time and talents, Jesus was primary talking about how we manage and invest our money.

1. Everything <u>entrusted</u> to us <u>belongs</u> to God! We are the <u>managers</u> of it.

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them." Matthew 25:14

2. God has <u>entrusted</u> each of us according to our <u>ability</u> to manage it.

"To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability." Matthew 25:15a

3. God's <u>expectation</u> is to put to <u>work</u> that which He has given us.

The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

Matthew 25:17-18

4. Each person will be judged on their faithfulness with what they were given.

After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! Matthew 25:20-21a

5. As we are faithful with what God has given us today, God is preparing us for the joy and responsibilities of His eternal kingdom."

"You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

Matthew 25:21b