



SD#145 Whoever Has Ears Let Them Hear, Part 1

I Peter 4:10 (NIV) *“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”*

Reflection Questions:

- 1) How do you use your time?

- 2) Do you take time to thank God for every good gift?

- 3) How can counting your blessings allow you to hear God’s truth ?

Extended Devotion:

Do you have a favorite book or theme of the Bible? I don't know about you, but I love reading through the gospel books. Reading and contemplating the life of Christ brings me encouragement and joy. Jesus shared many parables during His ministry on earth. One that comes to mind is the parable of the many talents. Are you familiar with this one?

In this parable, a master entrusts his property to three servants before he leaves on a journey. Each servant receives a certain portion of talents (sum of money) and does something different with it. Two of them invest the talents, but the third servant buries them and does nothing. When the master returns from his trip, he rewards the servants who were faithful to grow and use their talents. However, the third servant who hid his talents did not receive rewards and lost what he was originally given.

Friends, God has given us so many gifts, so many talents to use for His honor and glory. They don't belong to us. He has entrusted each one of us with a certain portion of "talents." Some of us have abundant finances; others have various skill sets. No matter what talents God has entrusted to us, our job is to be faithful with them.

When we are faithful with what God has given, we further the work of God's kingdom. Our faithfulness brings us into a deeper understanding of God's character. It also tells the world that we are children of the King. When we're tempted to sit and wait for something "bigger," may we keep moving forward in faithfulness and obedience. God doesn't want us spending our time looking for something better or different from what He's given us. He wants us to remain faithful.

James 1:17 (NIV) says, "*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.*" Thanking God for every good and perfect gift draws us deeper into His presence.

Application:

1. Read the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30.
2. Pray and thank God for all His gifts and ask Him to help you remain faithful and obedient.

Takeaway:

Remaining faithful where God has us allows us to hear the truth of His Word.

