



Get Ready

Part 1- Get Ready for More Discussion Guide

Maybe you've been told you're special, created by God. Maybe you've heard you have a purpose, gifts, and talents. It's so encouraging to know for sure that God can use us—no matter our past, no matter our talents—to reach others and share the Kingdom of God with them. It's a new day; get excited about your future!

Jump Start

1. When was the last time you woke up excited for the day? What was taking place that day?
2. **Read [Luke 19:1-10](#)**. Why was Zacchaeus so desperate to get a look at Jesus? In what ways did Zacchaeus show passion in this passage? What did Jesus mean when He said, "...for this man has shown himself to be a true son of Abraham" (NLT)? In what ways have you truly shown the world your commitment to God?
3. Because of His comments to Zacchaeus, Jesus told the parable of the Talents (or Ten Minas). They are connected. Look at the same parable in Matthew's Gospel. **Read [Matthew 25:14-18](#)**. What do the talents/minas which the man entrusts to the servants represent to you? What are some of the talents/gifts God has given you? Do you consistently view these things as God's gifts to you? What would it look like to produce a profit/return with your gifts?
4. **Read [Matthew 25:19-23](#)**. How does God reward those who use and invest the gifts He has entrusted to them? How is the amount you are given influenced by what you produced in the past? What is Jesus teaching through this correlation? Have you been faithful with the small gifts you had been given and received more responsibility? Are you ready to receive the larger gifts/responsibilities from God?
5. **Read [Romans 12:6](#) and [Psalm 139:13-16](#)**. How do these passages connect to the parable and specifically to those who produce a return? If you were to face God right now, what do you think God would say of the return/profit you have produced on the gifts He has given to you?

6. **Read [Matthew 25:24-28](#).** How does the third servant's approach differ from the other two? Is the owner frustrated by the return or by the servant? What specifically frustrated him? What did the remarks about the master's character do?
7. Final Thought: What things do you consistently show passion for? In what areas of your life do you need to do something with the gifts/responsibilities given to you? What gifts have you been wasting? How can you begin to move towards action and "a profit" this week?

Deeper

8. **Read [Galatians 4:1-7](#).** When you think about your relationship with God, what worldly relationships can we compare it to? In these passages, what are the different relationship dynamics you can identify? Which of these descriptions of a relationship with God do you identify with the most? Which do you identify with the least? Why?
9. **Read [1 Corinthians 6:17-20](#).** This passage and the parable we studied this week both point to a servant / master relationship. How does our servant / master relationship differ from the ones we have seen here on earth? How is it the same?
10. **Read [John 13:12-17](#) and [John 15:9-17](#).** These passages from John's Gospel focus on a friendship relationship or a Father/Son relationship. How can we be considered both a friend and a child of God? How do we balance the relationship of Master, Friend, Lord, and Father all at the same time? Can you identify a time in your life that you have experienced each of these relationship dynamics as you related to God?