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## You Have Talents!

**“Well done, good and faithful servant! 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 25:21)**

**God calls us to use our talents faithfully for Him. What talents has God given you? Too often we think of talents as fully developed abilities, but it is only as we cultivate our talents that they become mature. Furthermore, we must be willing to take the risk of using our talents.**

**Consider what God is saying specifically to you in the “talent” parable Jesus told in Matthew 25:14-30. In today’s parable, the first two servants were willing to take a risk. Not only did they receive a 100-percent return for their efforts, but their master praised them (see today’s verse). Note that, despite their different talents and abilities the first two servants received the same reward, indicating that God requires us to be faithful in the use of our abilities, whatever they are. If you want to be successful in God’s eyes, you must first be faithful with the responsibilities He gives you. Then He will put you in charge of many things.**

**Is there a talent that people tell you are good at but you just shrug it off as not being good enough? Do you think no one could be blessed by your talent? This passage tells you to take the risk. Volunteer for that position, write that book, sign up for that class, and offer to help with that project. Listen to God today as He calls you to the life of adventure that comes with using the gifts He’s given you. Don’t limit God.**

**Now let’s look at the warning to those people who don’t use their talents. The third servant was afraid. Unwilling to take a risk with his one talent, he buried it in the ground.**

**Because there wasn’t a return on his “investments,” this third servant is condemned for his sloth and indifference.**

**Are you burying your talents? God will hold you responsible for what you do with your talents, with your life. God wants you to take the risk of using the talents He has given you. Take the first step today, and you’ll be amazed at what God can do! And one day you’ll be blessed when you hear God say, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” AMEN.**

~ Bob Barnes

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

