

5 Secret Ingredients: Matthew 25:14-30

Secret #3: Be Faithful

Many of us are comparing our behind the scenes footage with everyone else's highlight reel. When we compare we end up getting nowhere.

The parable of the talents:

What matters is not what you _____, or how much you _____ but what you _____.

In other words:

Being _____ is more important than being _____.

Being _____ is more important than being _____.

Being _____ is more important than being _____.

Being _____ is more important than being _____.

The third servant sees his master as a ruthless robber, rather than a benevolent and generous leader who rewards **faithfulness**.

Application:

Faithfulness is seen in how we _____ our _____.

Life Group Study Guide

This week, before you go to your Life Group:

Read Matthew 25:14-30. What questions do you have? How would you summarize this passage in your own words?

Life Group Discussion Questions:

Do you ever find yourself comparing yourself to other people? How do these comparisons make you feel about yourself? Discuss the following statement: "Many of us are comparing our behind the scene footage with everyone else's highlight reel." Do you think this is an accurate statement for much of our culture? What are some of the effects of this kind of comparison?

Read Matthew 25:14-30. Compare the first 2 servants. What is different and what is the same about their stories? What do we learn about the master in how he treats these two servants?

Contrast the experience of the first 2 servants with the third. What is the same and what is different about his story? What does his account of what he did with his talent (verses 24-25) tell us about him? What kind of person in real life corresponds to this servant? What are the characteristics of the people who think and act like him?

Do you think the master's response to each servant is fair? Why or why not? What do you think we learn about God and how he wants us to use your abilities, opportunities, and personalities?

Faithfulness is seen in how we invest the best of what God has entrusted us with. What do you think are the greatest gifts that God has given you? In what ways can you ensure that you are investing those gifts for his kingdom on a regular basis?