

LIFE GROUP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Live Generously August 23, 2026

Summary

Jesus has entrusted each of us with something valuable—our time, talents, relationships and money—and He wants us to use what we have been given for His purposes. In the parable of the talents, the faithful servants didn't simply hold on to what they received; they actively used it and were rewarded for their faithfulness.

God is a generous God who gave first, and as we grow spiritually, we become people who give first, too. When we recognize that everything we have belongs to God, we can live with open hands instead of holding tightly to what we have. Generosity is not just about giving money; it is a way of living that draws us closer to God and allows us to share in His happiness as we bless others.

Scripture

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 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.

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

"The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

"His master replied, '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!'

"Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

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"His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

"So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)

Let's Start

If someone gave you \$1 million and said, "You have to use it to bless other people," what would you do with it?

Gratitude and Prayer

How has God been at work in your life since we last met?

Let's Talk

1. What stood out to you most from the parable of the bags of gold in Matthew 25:14–30, and why?
2. What are some of the "bags of gold" God has entrusted to you—your time, talents, relationships, resources or money?
3. Which is easier for you: being generous with your time, your talents, your relationships or your money? Which is more difficult? Why?
4. The third servant allowed fear to keep him from using what he had been given. What kinds of fears can keep us from being generous?
5. What does it mean in practical terms to recognize that everything we have ultimately belongs to God?
6. Kyle said, "We serve a give-first God, so we are give-first people." How should knowing that God gave first affect the way we live?
7. How might becoming more generous change not only the lives of the people around you, but also your relationship with God?

Let's Act

What is one small way you could *live generously* this week?

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