



## Use Your Talents

God has blessed each one of us with different talents and abilities. Some are blessed with extraordinary gifts that indeed make them famous because of their superior talents. Many who have been blessed with special talents don't use them for the glory of the Lord but for their own glorification. Unfortunately many look to these few with envy and dwell on their unusual abilities that they don't have instead of seeing and using what they do possess. God is not interested in our daydreams of what we could be if I just had...just like... These are idle thoughts that benefit no one and usually only bring self-pity, laziness or a spirit of self-defeat that prevents us from even trying to accomplish anything we would like to achieve. Excuses are always easily found for not seeing or trying to develop our talents if we focus on the talents that we don't possess. In Matthew 25:14-30 Jesus is teaching lessons about what His second coming will be like. Each of the servants in the parable were given talents matching

their abilities and expected to put those talents to use for the Master's glory. The first two servants took the talents that they were entrusted with and put them to work. They were praised by the Master and given more responsibility because they had been faithful in the few things they were given. Finally the last servant who was given the one talent told the Master that he was afraid of Him and so he hid the talent. See he tells the Master here is what belongs to you. The Master calls this servant a wicked and lazy servant. The Master calls this servant on his excuse that he did nothing because he was afraid. The Master tells him if he were really afraid he would have given the talent to the bankers so that there would have been interest on it to give back to Him. The Bible encourages us to use our talents - look at Romans 12:1-21. First we are told to think of ourselves with sober judgement in accordance with the measure of faith that we have. God wants us to have a spirit of humility so we can serve one another with our talents instead of using those talents for our own glory. In verse 6 we are told each one of us has different gifts according to the grace we've been given. It goes on to name many different talents from the more noticeable to

the easily overlooked ones. It has one common factor for each gift it tells us "let him" do it. Many times we need to uncover what our talents or gifts are. Sometimes we don't see or realize the gifts that we've been blessed with and so we miss many opportunities to serve and encourage one another with those unused abilities. Rest assured all of us have been blessed with talents and God expects us to use them to the best of our ability. If we don't use the talents we've been given for whatever the reason, we choose to put ourselves in the same position as the lazy servant in Matthew 25. We can never repay Jesus for the gift of His Grace but using our talents and abilities to His glory is one of the small ways we tell him how much we appreciate the salvation that we enjoy.