



# Serving Christ with Purpose

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Matthew 25:23

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- Matthew 25:23

“His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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Common teaching from parable of talents:

- Use your talents faithfully for God and He will reward you.

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- Common Myth:  
Talents in parable refer to abilities / skills
- Fact:  
Talents in the parable = money.  
Money (talents) was distributed according to servant's varying abilities. (v.15)

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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## Parables

- Stories with a lesson
- Not meant for 1:1 literal application to real life

Find the main theme/ lesson illustrated.

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Emphasis – achieving master's purpose.

- Parable had a commercial setting.
- Aim in parable was for servants to make money for master.

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Emphasis – achieving master's purpose.

- Good Servants

- Emphasis on return on investment.
- Commended for achieving that purpose.

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- Bad Servant

- Knew master's purpose

“Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed”  
(v.24)



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- Bad Servant

Master: You knew the purpose – you ought to have at least got a return of monetary interest!

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- Truth via parable of talents:  
Christ rewards His servants  
who display a high standard of stewardship  
to achieve His purposes.

# Pasir Panjang Christ Church

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## Pasir Panjang Christ Church



### *Serving Christ with Purpose*

His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

**Matthew 25:23**



# A People with Purpose

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Acts 2:40-47

10 June 2012

# A People with Purpose



*E*vangelizing the Lost  
• *We reach out to others*

*E*difying the Saints  
• *We build up one another*

*E*xalting the Lord  
• *We shine for Christ*

# A People with Purpose

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- Evangelizing the Lost (40-41)
  - We reach out to others!
    - We bring them to the Lord (40)
    - We bring them to the church (41)

# A People with Purpose

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- Edifying the Saints (42-45)
  - We build up one another!
    - We build up one another through meeting together (42)
    - We build up one another through serving each other (43-45)

# A People with Purpose

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- Exalting the Lord (46-47)
  - We shine for Christ!
    - We worship with true joy & unity (46)
    - We enjoy favor with people in our community (47)

FULL CIRCLE – God adds to the church



# A People with Purpose

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Ministries not for the sake of:

1. Tradition
2. Formality or structure per se
3. Preference

But be a people of purpose!

# A People with Purpose



*E*vangelizing the Lost  
• *We reach out to others*

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*E*xalting the Lord  
• *We shine for Christ*

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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- Truth: Christ rewards His servants who display a high standard of stewardship to achieve His purposes.
  - Serve with Purpose
  - Serve with Passion

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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- Serve with Passion

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant”

Good = high standard of worth or use

Faithful = trustworthy

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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High standard of stewardship:

- Active Passion
  - Exert effort to achieve purposes
- Directed Passion
  - Direct resources according to abilities

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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- Active Passion:

Exert Effort to achieve purposes

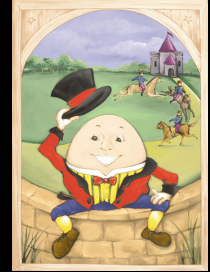
Good servants - actively engaged in trading.

Bad servant – buried money.

The danger of the attitude of convenience!

# Passion

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- Mark 3:20-21

Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “*He is out of his mind.*”

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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High standard of stewardship:

- Active Passion
  - Exert effort to achieve purposes
- Directed Passion
  - Direct Resources according to abilities



All my strength - directed



# Serving Christ with Purpose

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- Serve with Passion
  - Active Passion
    - Exert effort to achieve purposes
  - Directed Passion
    - Direct Resources according to abilities

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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- What will Jesus say to you for 2013?

“Well done, thou good and faithful servant...”

# Serving Christ with Purpose

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- Theme:

Christ rewards His servants who display a high standard of stewardship to achieve His purposes.

- Serve with Passion
- Serve with Purpose



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