

PART 4: Hidden Talents

INTRODUCTION

Each one of us has a unique mix of time, resources, gifts, abilities, influence and authority, and every day we make choices about how to manage those things. As we examine our lives, are we being wise managers? Are our lives as fulfilling as they could be? What does God have to say about our potential?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the little or big things that make you anxious?
2. Can you remember a time when you said “no” to an opportunity because of anxiety or fear? Explain.
3. What gifts or abilities do you have?
4. Do you see yourself as more of an owner or a manager when it comes to your time, resources, gifts, abilities, influence, and authority?
5. **Read Matthew 25:14-18.** How have you buried your “talents” in the past?
6. **Read Matthew 25:24.** Is the servant’s assessment of the master valid? Why or why not? What’s your perspective when it comes to God and what he expects of you?
7. What are some ways you can “unbury” your time, resources, gifts, abilities, influence, and authority to build the Kingdom of God?

MOVING FORWARD

When it comes to our future and our potential, we have no idea what God can do in us and through us, but it’s actually possible to set aside our fear and anxiety and trust in the One who richly provides. Jesus said, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God.” What could happen if we began to orient our lives around that idea? I don’t know. But isn’t it worth pursuing?