**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. August 5, 2018**

**Talents: We All Have Something To Offer**

Matthew 25:14-30

**Key Truth:** Because God is the owner and giver of everything we have, we must learn how to be good stewards of all He has given us.

**The Parable Explained:**

1. The character qualities of a disciple’s life in the Kingdom of

 God.

2. While Jesus Christ is away we have been entrusted to use

 every opportunity to advance the Kingdom of God.

3. We are all gifted for service.

4. We will all give an account to Jesus on how we used our gifts

 for His Kingdom Agenda.

5. Our willingness to invest in the Kingdom is tied to our

 relationship with the King.

**The Three Key Traits of A Servant of Jesus Christ:**

1. Obedience flows out of a loving relationship.

2. Faithfulness is evidence to whether or not we truly belong to

 Jesus.

3. Fruitfulness is the outworking evidence of the inner working

 of the Holy Spirit. John 15:5

**Threefold Rewards From the Master:**

1. The faithful servants received their Master’s praise.

2. The faithful servants received greater responsibility.

 A. God rewards faithfulness with increased opportunities for

 service.

3. The faithful servants were invited to share their Master’s joy.

**Taking It Beyond the Walls:** Surrender to Jesus Christ and make the most of the opportunities and abilities you have been given.

**Food For Thought**

For the week of August 5, 2018

(Questions and Scriptures for further personal study)

What do you need to change about your attitudes or actions so that Jesus will say to you, “Well done, good and faithful servant”?

How do you feel if you don’t have as much money as someone else? How do you keep from getting discouraged if you don’t have as many resources or natural abilities as others?

How might the way people see God influence whether or not we invest our lives in God’s kingdom every day?

In the process of earning “five more” and “two more,” the servants risked losing some of it. How is it risky to invest in God’s kingdom?

How can you tell if you’re truly investing in God’s kingdom or just being “churchy?”

Read Galatians 6:9-10: Think about some opportunities and abilities that God has given you, now put those things into tangible actions to bless others.