Matthew 25:14-30 – Whatcha Gonna Do With Whatcha Got?

“Steward”: a __________________________ of someone else’s belongings, and they were accountable for how those belongings were managed.

ACT ONE: DISTRIBUTION (Matthew 25: 14, 15) A better word may be __________________________ What we receive is __________________________ investment in us.

1. 5 talent – few bright stars
   a. Don’t compare yourself to them.
   b. Don’t think they are somehow “__________________” as a person than you.
   c. Don’t “worship” them – all they have they have been given by God.
   d. Don’t wait for them to do what ______________ should be doing.
   e. If you are a 5-talent person, remember, to whom much is given, ______________ shall be required. (Luke 12:48)

2. 2 talent – average – most of us.
   a. People with what others see as “average” abilities do not need to be “average” people!
   b. Don’t judge yourself by the 5-talent or the 1-talent person, being too hard or too easy on yourself.

3. 1 talent
   a. He was expected to be as _____________ as the others. Don’t let the fact that others may be able to do better than you stop you from doing what you can!
   b. There are no “____________” gifts. There are no “little” jobs.

ACT TWO: PERFORMANCE (verses 16-18)

1. 5 talent – was true to the trust placed in him. 100% return
2. 2 talent – also was true, also 100% return
3. 1 talent – afraid to risk, avoided personal responsibility (he thought)

The question is not, how many/much do you have; but, how are you using what you have.

Insights:
   a. We will not all use and multiply our talents in the ________________ way.
   b. God will show you what He wants you to do, if you will ask him. Find a ________________ and fill it, find a hurt and ________ it. (Evaluate what you enjoy doing, what irritates you, needs you see, etc.)
   c. Success is finding God’s ________________ and doing it! No matter the level of your talents, you can be a success. And, as a matter of fact, a 1-talent person using his talent to the best of his ability is more successful in God’s eyes than a 5-talent man only using 2 of his talents!

ACT THREE: JUDGMENT (verses 19-30)

1. Rewards (verses 19-30) both 5 and 2 talent receive same commendation – exact same words!
The question is not, “Did you do as much as someone else”, but, “Did you do YOUR ________________?”

2. Punishment (verses 24-30)

His issues:
   a. No character – blamed his failure on the master. “Not how much – but how faithful you are.”
   b. No courage – _______________ decides WHO gets WHAT.
   c. No imagination – he couldn’t see that he was as necessary as the others
   d. No motivation – didn’t even ________________

“Lord, I acknowledge that everything I have comes from you, and is your investment in me.”