

## Finding Purpose & Significance

### Achieving greatness:

Matthew 11:11, Mark 10:35-45, John 3:22-36

### Defeating jealousy and pride:

John 3:22-36

**PROBLEM:** With any level of **SUCCESS** there is bound to come **CRITICISM** and **COMPETITION**.

Nothing reveals character more than when ours is **ATTACKED** or needs to be **DECREASED**.

**SOLUTION:** When it comes to our **TALENTS** and **PLATFORM**, we have to:

Know that they are **SIMPLY GIFTS**.

Know why they have **BEEN GIVEN**.

Know who is supposed to get **THE ATTENTION**.

**OUTCOME:** Greatness can only be achieved when we understand that our **PURPOSE** is to:

Make **JESUS GREATER** and more **VISIBLE**.

Make **OURSELVES LESS** and less **VISIBLE**.

## Finding Purpose & Significance

### **Achieving greatness:**

Matthew 11:11, Mark 10:35-45, John 3:22-36

### **Defeating jealousy and pride:**

John 3:22-36

**PROBLEM:** With any level of \_\_\_\_\_ there is  
bound to come \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Nothing reveals character more than when ours  
is \_\_\_\_\_ or needs to be \_\_\_\_\_.

**SOLUTION:** When it comes to our \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_, we have to:

Know that they are \_\_\_\_\_.

Know why they have \_\_\_\_\_.

Know who is supposed to get \_\_\_\_\_.

**OUTCOME:** Greatness can only be achieved when we understand  
that our \_\_\_\_\_ is to:

Make \_\_\_\_\_ and more \_\_\_\_\_.

Make \_\_\_\_\_ and less \_\_\_\_\_.

## Life Group Study Questions

For the week of February 19, 2023

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

### MY STORY

1. Can you think of a family member or friend who brings you genuine joy when you see them execute a talent, perform or produce something specific to their gifting, ability or role?

2. Can you identify a unique gift, quality or character trait from someone in your group that you have seen God use as a sign that points to Jesus?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. In this weekend's message, Pastor Chris talked about stewardship of our gifts and resources – meaning, how we manage or oversee what we have been given or what has been entrusted to us. Read Matthew 25:14-28. Note your observations – what was given, what was done with it, how did each servant view it, and how did the master respond?

#### **Matthew 25:14-28 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>14</sup> "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup> So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup> But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup> "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' <sup>21</sup> "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' <sup>22</sup> "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.' <sup>23</sup> "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' <sup>24</sup> "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' <sup>26</sup> "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup> Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. <sup>28</sup> "So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags.

Servant #1

Servant #2

Servant #3

The Master

Each of the servants in the story starts with what they have been given by the master, who gave to them according to their abilities. Take a moment to fill in the chart with the talents and platforms God has given you to steward.

<b>TALENTS</b> <b>(gifts/abilities/resources)</b>	<b>PLATFORM</b> <b>(relationships/influence)</b>

When you look at your list, are you pleased? Do you ever find yourself wanting different talents or platforms? Are you ever tempted to compare what you've been given with someone else or limit yourself because you don't believe your gifts are as great as someone else's?

Often our minds go to the biggest areas of influence that are more obvious for us to identify. Are there any smaller or seemingly less significant examples of influence/platform that are easy for you to overlook or undervalue? What might it look like to have a proper view of these gifts considering the purpose Chris talked about this weekend?

The servants who invested their "bags of gold" felt a responsibility to do something with what the master entrusted to them. As you reflect on your own life, what are some ways you can invest what God has given you?

## TAKING IT HOME

What is one specific area you could focus on stewarding? Is there anything that needs to happen for you to carry this out?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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### North Coast Women's Conference

Friday, March 3 - Saturday, March 4

Join the women of North Coast Church for this two-day event hosted at the Vista Campus. The conference will dig into the theme of being Made New, with special guest speakers Hosanna Wong and Jada Edwards.

Register now at [northcoastchurch.com/womens-conference/](https://northcoastchurch.com/womens-conference/)