



## Divine Applause

Sermon Outline  
July 16, 2023  
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## Intentional Stewards

Matthew 25:14-28

\* **A time of accountability and also \_\_\_\_\_ is coming.**

**Romans 14:12** - So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

*When does God see us? All the time, right? But could there be moments when God not only takes notice but may even offer us commendation for our behavior? What could we possibly do to receive Divine applause? Jesus made it very clear that God takes notice when we use what He's given us to serve others and will personally affirm us for it. **That's Divine applause!***

\* **What could possibly cause \_\_\_\_\_ to applaud?**

- 1. God applauds those who \_\_\_\_\_ His gifts well.**
- 2. God applauds those who \_\_\_\_\_ by serving others.**
- 3. God applauds \_\_\_\_\_ service to others.**

\* **A parable is an emotional \_\_\_\_\_ that illustrates a spiritual truth or reality.**

### The Parable of Intentional Vs. Lazy Steward Matthew 25:14-28

**Summary:** *A master entrusts his servants with different amounts of money, or resources, before going on a journey. Two of the servants are intentional and double the amount they were given, while the third servant, who is lazy, buries his talent with no ROI. When the master returns, he commends the first two servants for their faithful use of the resources but is clearly disappointed with the third servant for not using his resources appropriately.*

\* **Please note:**

**This is not about trying to \_\_\_\_\_ your salvation.**

**2 Timothy 1:9** - He (God) has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of His own purpose and grace.

### Observations:

**1. We don't all have gifts to the same \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Matthew 25:15a** - To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability.

**2. We are to use whatever we've been given for God's \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Matthew 25:16** - The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more.

**3. God affirms those who \_\_\_\_\_ what He's given.**

**Matthew 25:21** - 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!"

\* \_\_\_\_\_, **method and motivation matter to God.**

**4. Even though Jesus is no longer physically present on the earth, it doesn't mean His followers have the freedom to sit back and do \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Matthew 25:26a** - His master replied, "You wicked, lazy servant!"

### Obvious Responses:

**1. Acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ accountability.**

**2. Ask the \_\_\_\_\_ questions.**

\* *Do I equate hearing with doing?*

\* *What am I doing with what I've been given?*

**3. Do \_\_\_\_\_.**