

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for February 14, 1988**

**Parable of the Talents**  
**Part 2**  
**Matthew 25:14-30**  
**Dale Whitehead**

1. Responsibility (**Matthew 25:14-15**)
2. Response: Are we seizing the opportunities Christ has given?

**Verse 16**, immediately the slave was enthusiastic about furthering his master's interest. As a result of his energy, work, and commitment, his master's interest was advanced.

**Verse 18**, contrast of the slaves—the active, hard working to the passive, do-nothings!

Are we actively seizing opportunities for the master's interest? How faithful are we seizing opportunities?

It is by the seizing of those opportunities that we know we have a right relationship with Christ.

**Verse 20**, the slave is confident in his response to what his master had given. Paul also reflects this same confidence (**2 Timothy 4:7-8**).

**Verse 24-25**, the third slave is passive, takes no action. The slave presents a good excuse for doing nothing but there is no excuse that is acceptable.

There is no reward for the unfaithful servant. The opportunity he has is taken from him.

The faithful servant receives greater opportunity, more opportunity to serve the master and communion with the master, “enter into the joy of your master.”