



Use it or Lose it

Week 7 R&R Devotional

Big Idea:

Don't take what God has given to you for granted. Embrace God's Word and live it out every day of your life.

Scripture - Matthew 25:14-30

²⁸ "Then he ordered, Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. ²⁹ To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away." (NLT)

Have you ever lost a gift card before? Maybe you forgot where you stored it, or it got thrown away by accident! NOOOOO! Did you know that over \$1Billion goes unused in gift cards every year? That is devastating! Maybe that's never happened to you, but have you ever had a coupon from your favorite fast-food place that you were really excited to use. Maybe it was a coupon for a buy one get one free burger, or maybe a coupon for free Jack In The Box tacos. You hand the cashier your coupon and then hear these horrible words "Sorry your coupon expired!" NOOOOO! What's worse than losing a gift card or having an expired food coupon is when you don't use a blessing from God. God speaks to us, gives us dreams, ideas, and abilities so that we can live blessed in His will for our lives and also be a blessing to others, but if we don't use it we lose it! Check out what Jesus has to say about this in Matthew 25:14-30.

The Parable of the talents shows us how God has blessed us all in one way or another. Some have been entrusted with much and others with less, but everyone has been given something. Jesus emphasizes the importance of valuing and using all that He has given to us. Whether you feel that God has entrusted you with a lot or a little, the truth is that if we don't choose to use what God has given to us, we won't be entrusted with more and that even the little that someone has can be taken away. Maybe you are afraid to use what God has given to you or maybe you're just lazy. Choose today to be obedient to God's call in your life and take action. If God has spoken to you about praying for a friend, coworker, or sharing your faith with someone, or serving in ministry etc... do it! Never forget that being obedient and faithful in the little will lead you to walk towards God's will for your life.

This Week's Memory Verse

Matthew 25

²⁹ To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away."

This Week's R&R - Matthew 25

This week we would like to encourage you to read Matthew 25 and read and reflect on the different parables Jesus is sharing.