

HOW TO INVEST OUR LIVES- Part II

Reference: **Matthew 25:14-30**

Pastor Larry Webb

There are seven principles in this parable that, together, teach us that the greatest use of someone's life is to invest it in something that is going to outlast it.

The **master** represents **Jesus Christ**.

The **servants** represent **professing Christians**.

The **talents** represent **all God has entrusted to someone**.

The **journey** represents Jesus ascending into heaven after His first coming; then **remaining in heaven** until He returns to the earth

FOUR is the principle of _____

Read verse **sixteen** and **seventeen**

Successful utilization equals talents _____ compared to talents _____.

Two questions:

- what is my _____?
- _____ is it important to reach my potential?

Read **verses eighteen, twenty-six** and **twenty-seven**

QUESTIONNAIRE:

- 1) taking risks makes good sense only if there are no acceptable alternatives
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 2) in general, I prefer stimulation more than to be secure
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 3) I am confident in being able to recover from my mistakes, no matter how big
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 4) I would promote someone with unlimited potential but limited experience to a critical position over someone with limited potential but more experience
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 5) anything worth doing is worth doing less than perfect
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____

- 6) I believe that opportunity knocks only once
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 7) it is better to ask for permission than to beg for forgiveness
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 8) success in management is as much a matter of luck as ability
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 9) given the choice, I would choose a \$3,000 annual raise over a \$30,000 bonus that I had about a three-in-one chance of winning
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 10) I can handle big losses and disappointments with little difficulty
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 11) if forced to choose between them, I would choose being safe over achievement
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 12) failure is a long way to management success
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 13) I tolerate ambiguity and unpredictability well
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 14) I would rather feel intense disappointment than intense regret
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____
- 15) when making a decision with uncertain consequences, my potential losses are my greatest concern
AGREE _____ DISAGREE _____

Calculate the total:

____ or higher indicates strong pro-risk attitudes

____ - ____ indicates medium-strong attitudes

____ or below indicates weak pro-risk attitudes

____ or ____ may indicate too strong of risk-taking tendencies

Reference: **Hebrews 11:6** "But without faith it is impossible to please God."

FIVE is the principle of _____

Read verses **nineteen, twenty-four** and **twenty-five**

There are three fears that prevent us from being and doing all that God has intended us to be and do:

- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ - _____

Reference: **Proverbs 29:25**, "The fear of man brings a **snare**."

Scoring:

One point for each of the following questions on which you **agree**:

2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 13, 14

One point for each of the following questions on which you **disagree**:

1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15