

CALLING

Skills

Abilities

Talents

Personality

+ DESIRE = CALLING

Risk In Scripture

Risk – “exposure to the chance of injury or loss” Random House Unabridged Dictionary

Matthew 9:19-21 Just then a woman who had hemorrhaged for twelve years slipped in from behind and lightly touched his robe. She was thinking to herself, "If I can just put a finger on his robe, I'll get well." Jesus turned—caught her at it. Then he reassured her: "Courage, daughter. *You took a risk of faith, and now you're well.*" The woman was well from then on. (The Message)

Romans 4:12 "...Abraham is also, of course, father of those who have undergone the religious rite of circumcision not just because of the ritual but *because they were willing to live in the risky faith-embrace of God's action for them, the way Abraham lived* long before he was marked by circumcision. (The Message)

The Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-18 "It's also like a man going off on an extended trip. He called his servants together and delegated responsibilities. To one he gave five thousand dollars, to another two thousand, to a third one thousand, *depending on their abilities*. Then he left. Right off, the first servant went to work and doubled his master's investment. The second did the same. But the man with the single thousand dug a hole and carefully buried his master's money.

19-21"After a long absence, the master of those three servants came back and settled up with them. The one given five thousand dollars showed him how he had doubled his investment. His master commended him: 'Good work! You did your job well. From now on be my partner.'

22-23"The servant with the two thousand showed how he also had doubled his master's investment. His master commended him: 'Good work! You did your job well. From now on be my partner.'

The Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:24-25 "The servant given one thousand said, 'Master, I know you have high standards and hate careless ways, that you demand the best and make no allowances for error. *I was afraid I might disappoint you, so I found a good hiding place and secured your money.* Here it is, safe and sound down to the last cent.'

26-27 "The master was furious. 'That's a terrible way to live! It's criminal to live cautiously like that! *If you knew I was after the best, why did you do less than the least?* The least you could have done would have been to invest the sum with the bankers, where at least I would have gotten a little interest.

28-30 "Take the thousand and give it to the one who risked the most. *And get rid of this "play-it-safe" who won't go out on a limb. Throw him out into utter darkness.'*

Homework

- Think back to when you are most alive verses what you can do well. Can you pinpoint the difference? Journal about what was happening when you felt most alive or “in the sweet spot”
- Are you willing to admit that you want the part in the play that God has for you? Even though you don't know exactly what that part is or what maybe involved.
- How do you see God, really? How does it feel to think about really trusting that He has your best interests at heart?
- Is there one thing in your life that you consider risky that you could start engaging today?