

OPPORTUNITIES

LIFE ON LOAN | WEEK 1

Matthew 25:14-30

LIFE ON LOAN

- “The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” Psalm 24:1
- Stewardship isn’t a subcategory of the Christian life. Stewardship is the Christian life!
- Stewardship means we are accountable to God for what we do and with what he has trusted to us

A HEART OF WISDOM

“SO TEACH US TO NUMBER OUR DAYS
THAT WE MAY GET A HEART OF
WISDOM.”
PSALM 90:12 ESV

- Opportunities
- Marriage
- Parenting
- Energy
- Seasons
- Time
- Influence
- Money

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

MATTHEW 25:14-30

14 “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. 15 He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.

16 The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. 17 The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. 18 But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master’s money.

19 After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money. 20 The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, 'Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.'

21 The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!' 22 The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.' 23 'The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

24 Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, ‘Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn’t plant and gathering crops you didn’t cultivate. 25 I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.’

26 But the master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn’t plant and gathered crops I didn’t cultivate, 27 why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.’

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. 30 Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

WHERE ARE YOU DIGGING HOLES?

WASTED POTENTIAL
GRIEVES THE HEART OF GOD

“Your greatest regret at the end of your life will be the lions you didn’t chase. You will look back longingly on risks not taken, opportunities not seized, and dreams not pursued. Stop running away from what scares you most and start chasing the God-ordained opportunities that cross your path.”

MARK BATTERSON

1. CHOOSE

- One of the most significant things you can do as a follower of Jesus is to choose
- There are many great choices and only one bad one – choosing to live apart from God
- 1 Samuel 14 - Jonathan and his armor bearer

2. FOCUS + FILTER

HOW DO I EVALUATE OPPORTUNITIES?

MY STRENGTHS + GIFTS	MY PAST EXPERIENCES
MY TOP 3 PRIORITIES	COUNTING THE COST

2. FOCUS + FILTER

“Make a careful exploration of who you are and the work you have been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don’t be impressed with yourself. Don’t compare yourself with others. Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life.”

GALATIANS 6:4-5

THE MESSAGE

3. RISK

- Being fully alive means we lean in to taking risks for God! To risk is to trust
- In the Scriptures, faith was about risk, danger, failure, miracles, or even death!
- The Chinese write the word RISK with two characters – Danger + Opportunity

“Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat.”

THEODORE ROOSEVELT