

WEEKLY GAME PLAN

What The Master Measures

Read Genesis 1:25-28 ESV, Isaiah 55:8-9

Context: God's ways are not our ways. What we consider important is not always what God considers important. But we were created in His image. He values communion and relationship. Before He ever made a solution for sin, He made a solution for loneliness.

Reflection Question: In what circumstances are you most lonely? What do you do about it? How can you invite others into your times of loneliness? Who may need your company this week?

Read Matthew 25:14-23 ESV

Context: Pay special attention to vs. 15 where Jesus says that each of the servants was given "according to his ability." God created each of us for specific purposes. He wants you to work to the abilities He's given you. The problem is that we sometimes love things that God doesn't love. It's not until we choose to love what God loves that we will start to measure what He measures.

Reflection Question: How can you have a heart for the things that God loves? What will help you to go after those things and not the things that the world says are important? How can you keep score if people can't always see what you've accomplished? If the world can't keep score of those things, are they truly important?

Read Matthew 25:24-30 ESV, 1 Peter 4:10

Context: God doesn't want us to just have and hold what He gives us. It's not enough to receive what He's given and hold it safely in reserve. He wants us to use what He gives us to reach others for His kingdom. He will never run out of good blessings for His faithful children. The Master measures multiplication, not management. If we choose not to do that, there is a very good chance that He will take what He's given us and give it to one who will use it to do His will. Our faithfulness to God is not management of what He's given. It's multiplication of what He's given us. The Master measures multiplication, not addition.

Reflection Question: What can you do this week to notice how others are *using* the gifts God has given them and not just noticing that they have those gifts? What gift has God given you that you are not currently using for Him? Why do you think this is?

Read Luke 12:16-21 NIV

Context: The person who dies with the most toys does not, in fact, win. We can work and strive and save, and bank as much as we can get our hands on in this life, but if all we are doing is trying to get those things for our own personal edification, it does us no good. We are not guaranteed any tomorrows. The Master measures our faithfulness to Him and His will for our lives, not our own fame.

Reflection Question: How much savings is enough? How much fun is enough? What size house is big enough? How many pairs of shoes are enough? How many name brand articles of clothing are enough? If you think about the time and energy you are spending trying to attain whatever the 'more' may be, what would be enough? What does God want you to do now with what you already have?

Read Luke 12:4-7 NIV, Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:7,

Context: God doesn't have even the hairs on our heads numbered because He knows everything. He has them numbered because He knows us that intimately and because He loves us that much. Nothing else He created was created in His image (imago Dei.) Nothing else He created had the breath of life breathed into it. We are to love others the way God loves us. That means we are to know them, we are to serve them, and we are to lay down our lives for them. The Master measures affection, not achievement.

Reflection Question: Why is it so important that we stop being a reservoir for God's blessings and start being a conduit for God's blessings to the world? How can you show God's affection to someone else this week? Who do you think the Lord wants you to reach out to soon? How can you bless them?

End in prayer. Pay attention to what the Master Measures in your own life this week!