



## Community Group Discussion Guide

August 24, 2014

### Week 1 | Dig It Up

### Matthew 25:14-30

#### Introduction

God desires for each one of us to live life to its fullest, to live a life that's thriving. Jesus expressed this desire as his reason for coming to earth, when he said this in the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter of John's gospel... "I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full." This series takes a look at 9 bedrock principles that go a long way toward making this life possible.

#### Question for Study

1. Read Matt 25:14-30. Take a few minutes to think about this...if you were to summarize the message of this parable that Jesus told, what would you say?
2. Identify who Jesus intends us to be thinking about in this parable. Who is the master, the servants, and what do the talents represent?
3. What are some ways in which, and reasons why we can "dig a hole" and put in it the talent that the Lord has entrusted to us? What dream, talent, burden or aspiration has God put in your heart?
4. Fear (vs. 25) was behind the poor stewardship chosen by the third servant. What would you name as the leading contributors to people not fully investing or stewarding God's purposes in their lives?
5. Read Proverbs 4:23. Often we read this verse and think about protecting our heart from outside influence but think about it today as protecting the unique things that God has put in you. How does a person "protect" and "cultivate" those things?
6. How was the "lazy servants" perception or belief about who his master was became a determining factor in how he responded? Describe who God is and what He wants and expects of us.
7. Soul Inventory: Set aside some time this week to get alone and go back to the dreams, passions, and desires that God has put in you. These are things that would bring God glory and fame. These may be very specific things or more general things like: loving God and loving people. Ask yourself: Am I stewarding well the things that God has put in my heart? If not, how can you take a step towards being a faithful steward?