

## MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

LifeConnect Group Discussion Questions for the message, "Minding the business" – January 10, 2010 Matthew 25,14-30

## To start...

 When we think about 'talents', we usually think about special abilities. Who was one of the most talented people you knew when you were in school? What happened to that person? What talents were you known for in school?

## Going deeper...

- In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25.14-30), who does the master represent? The journey? The talents? The servants?
- What happens to the two servants who doubled their investment? To the servant who hides his talent?
- How does the master's treatment of the one-talent servant seem to you: Fair? Harsh? Lenient? Why?
- Take a look through Matthew 23, 24 and 25. Why do you think it was necessary for Jesus to repeat his point so many times and in so many different ways?
- If the Master returned today, what would he say about how you've used what he gave you? How have you developed it?
- What kind of responsibility do you feel toward God regarding your 'talents' – both special abilities and your money?
- When have you observed that the more you used a talent, the more talents God gave you?

## Taking it to the next level...

- What will you do <u>this week</u>, with the talents God has given you, to prepare for his coming? How can your LifeConnect Group help?
- What does it mean to you to 'share your master's happiness' (Matthew 25.21, 23)?
- The message cited two other key verses: Proverbs 22.7 and Romans 13.8. Take another look at these verses and ask how they apply specifically to your life. How can we be stewards of money instead of slaves to it? What should be our one outstanding debt?
- Many people, even those who owe no money, continue to rack up a sin debt. Take time to confess your sins before God, quietly, and allow him to wipe away that debt. Then, give thanks for Jesus, who paid the price on the cross!