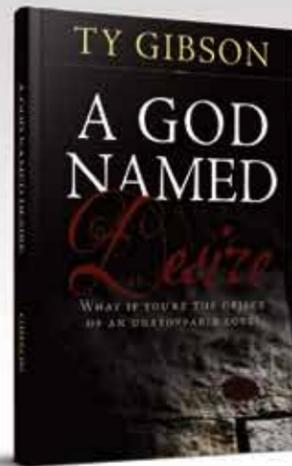


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Events Schedule

- **August 30–December 10**
ARISE Cornerstone Program, Jasper, OR
(209)206-0915 • info@arishub.org
- **September 29–October 1**
ASI Portugal
David Asscherick • www.asiportugal.org
- **October 1**
Junction City SDA Church, OR
James Rafferty • (541)998-5914
- **October 3-8**
Bogenhofen Seminary, Austria
David Asscherick • 43 0 7722-63125-1000
- **October 7-8**
Campus Hill Church, Loma Linda, CA
Ty Gibson • (909)796-0222
- **October 7-9**
Rocky Mountain Conference
Bible Workers Conference, CO
James & Risé Rafferty • (303)733-3771
- **October 15**
Walnut Valley SDA Church, CA
James Rafferty • (909)461-6159
- **October 21-22**
Clovis SDA Church, CA
Ty Gibson • (559)291-9121
- **October 29**
Springfield SDA Church, OR
Ty Gibson • (541)746-8263
- **December 3**
Sweet Home SDA Church, OR
James Rafferty • (541)367-4524

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LIGHT BEARERS

37457 Jasper Lowell Rd • Jasper, OR 97438 • USA
Phone: (541)988-3333
Fax: (541)988-3300
E-mail: info@lbm.org
www.lbm.org

*Light Bearers is a non-profit ministry based in beautiful Oregon State.
Our purpose is to help proclaim the gospel
of our Lord Jesus Christ through the spoken and published word.*

MISSION UPDATE

The Newsletter of Light Bearers Ministry/ARISE



Give 'Em What You've Got!

By Jeffrey Rosario

In Matthew 25, Jesus tells the parable of the talents. The context of this parable is significant because it comes after the emphasis on last day events leading up to the second coming of Jesus in chapter 24. So it's in an end-time setting.

The parable goes something like this: a man, before traveling off to a far country, calls his servants together to give them some last minute instructions. To one servant he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to another he gave one. Then the man went on his journey. While he was away, the servant that had received five talents made another five. The servant with two talents gained two more. But then the servant with only one "went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money" (Matthew 25:18).

"After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them" (v. 19).

To the first and second servants the lord said: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few

things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord" (v. 21, 23).

The strange thing is, that the only one that didn't act responsibly was the one that received the smallest talent. That's where the warning is directed. But why?

It's because those of us who feel like we don't have much to offer are the ones in greatest danger of squandering the gifts God has given us. That's me. This parable is for me. I'm the servant with the one talent. And I resonate with his flawed perspective when he says: "I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours" (v. 25).

That's where his problem lies. In that simple confession. What belongs to God is more than the mere talent He gave the servant. God is entitled to the actual talent and the potential inherent in it, if used to His glory.

So in the end, God will hold us accountable, not only for what we've

done, but for the good we could have done had we taken advantage of our opportunities. As Ellen White puts it:

"Our responsibilities are exactly proportioned to our light, opportunities, and privileges. We are responsible for the good we might have done, but failed to do because we were too indolent to use the means for improvement which were placed within our reach" (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 415).

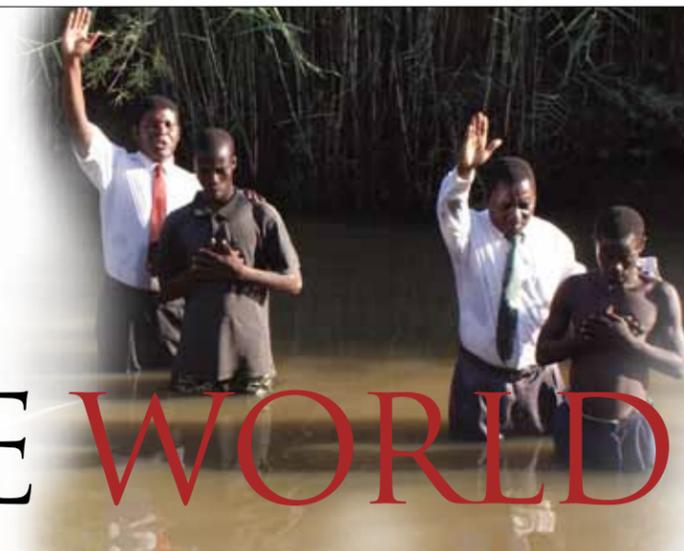
Those are sobering words.

But believe it or not, I find those words really encouraging. There's a promise wrapped up in that radical statement. God sees more potential in us than we could ever fathom! He knows that this is not all I've got. He sees so much more in me. He believes in me.

And He believes in you.

So don't get distracted with wishing you were talented like others. God is after you. The world is waiting for your unique contribution. Don't hold back. Give 'em what you've got!

OCTOBER 2011



THE PRINTED PAGE— IS REACHING THE WORLD

CONSIDER THIS . . .

By His life and His death, Christ has achieved even more than recovery from the ruin wrought through sin. It was Satan's purpose to bring about an eternal separation between God and man; but in Christ we become more closely united to God than if we had never fallen. In taking our nature, the Saviour has bound Himself to humanity by a tie that is never to be broken. Through the eternal ages He is linked with us. "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son." John 3:16. He gave Him not only to bear our sins, and to die as our sacrifice; He gave Him to the fallen race. To assure us of His immutable counsel of peace, God gave His only-begotten Son to become one of the human family, forever to retain His human nature.

Ellen White,
Desire of Ages, p.25

Man must pass over the ground over which Christ has passed. As Christ overcame every temptation which Satan brought against Him, so man is to overcome. And those who strive earnestly to overcome are brought into a oneness with Christ that the angels in heaven can never know.

Ellen White,
SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 7, 926

The angels of glory find their joy in giving, - giving love and tireless watchcare to souls that are fallen and unholy. Heavenly beings woo the hearts of men; they bring to this dark world light from the courts above; ... to bring the lost into a fellowship with Christ which is even closer than they themselves can know.

Ellen White,
Desire of Ages, p. 21

Twenty five years ago, Light Bearers Ministry (LBM) began its God given directive of printing literature for the world field. Since that time, the literature work at LBM has become a flowing force, flooding the world with the life-changing power of God's word. Here are some recent reports of the impact of the printed page around the world.

From Africa:

Zambia and Zimbabwe:

Light Bearers has been such a blessing to us and to Zambia, Africa and our neighboring countries. Just this past Friday, I sent 53 boxes from your previous container to Zimbabwe (Zim) for our project there. Five months ago, the team in Zim took 2000 sets of Discover Bible Guides and have basically finished them.

Two weeks ago, I went to visit our ten new Pioneers in the Northern Province here in Zambia. It was the first time that I visited a district where there is no Adventist presence. These new Pioneers are using the lessons to break the soil. These are the Bemba Discover Bible Guide lessons you sent us. People are very happy about these

lessons. In these unreached areas, just a few people can read English. Our senior Pioneer, who supervises the new Pioneers, told me that ten people are going to be baptized within the next two weeks. These will be the first group of Adventist believers in this area.

Meiring Pretorius

Mozambique:

The church in Mozambique last year baptized over 13,000 souls for Christ. As a part of the "Reaping & Celebration" campaign from the Division, more the 3,000 lay people were involved in preaching the gospel across the country. This year, up until May, more than 5,000 have been baptized and many more are being prepared for the harvest.

The very important point in this winning-souls operation is that all Bible courses used to bring these souls to Christ come from the donation of Light Bearers. These containers reach our harbor full of Portuguese material and make a great impact in evangelism in Mozambique. We are very thankful, first to God, and second to Light Bearers, for this willingness

to help Mozambique Union. We are a very poor country and more than half of our membership has just one meal a day. We are fighting against poverty, malaria, AIDS, lack of water and many African sicknesses, and we do not have money to print material.

More than 20,000 souls joined the SDA Church because of the Discover Guide lessons supported by Light Bearers Ministry. These lessons are a very important tool of evangelism, and they can go where our members, elders or pastors cannot go. In various schools, hospitals and prisons these lessons brought souls to Christ.

Suzana Francisco Xavier, a member of Choupal Seventh-day Adventist church in Maputo, was assigned by her church to work in Lhavene prison. She organized a group of people to work with her and she uses the Discover Guide lessons to preach to the inmates. She is so excited about this work that she says:

"The work of God is like a two-edged sword. This is true in a sense that even a hard-core criminal is humbled when he or she encounters the word of God. Every Sabbath, when I go to that prison I see a lot

of change in those who are reading our lessons. Surely the Spirit of God is working on them. I have heard touching testimonies from criminals who did not want to hear anything about God when I started and now they are testifying of the love and power of God in their lives."

God has been working with us in Mozambique. We have several ministries helping us—Maranatha, Gospel Outreach, etc.—and all of them, when it comes to evangelism, are using the Discover Bible Guide lessons from Light Bearers. It is difficult to count the results of this work. I really believe that only eternity will show the results of these donations to help our country to preach the gospel. May God bless you all!

Reporting from Mozambique Union.

Pr. Miguel Simoque
Personal Ministry/Evangelism
Director

Pr. Dilson Bezerra, DMin
Vice-President/Ministerial Director