

# TALENT, ABILITY & CALLING

## Five Talents Team

“To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one,  
to each according to his ability. Then he went away.”  
(Matthew 25:15)

Did you know that the talent is the largest measure of weight in the Bible? In fact, many scholars believe that one talent represented as much as 75 lbs. of silver or gold. In today's economy, a single talent of gold would be worth well over one million dollars.

When we recognise the immense value of a talent it helps us appreciate the great trust and opportunity the master gives to his servants. What a rare privilege to manage such a gift!

God has given each of us abilities and resources to use for good. These gifts are not our own, but are to be invested to further the Master's purposes. The challenge is that we often neglect our talents, fail to recognise their value, or simply use them to serve our own purposes instead of God's.

Over the past twenty plus years, Five Talents has helped women and men in developing countries around the world to identify and develop their talents. Time and time again, we have found that even in the poorest communities and in the most desperate circumstances, there are untapped talents of great value. As entrepreneurs discover their talents, they also learn that their gifts are closely linked to their calling.

When was the last time you reflected on the talents you've been given? Well, here's your chance.

## PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, your Word assures me that I am created in your image with beauty, dignity and honour. Help me to recognise, develop, and use the gifts and resources you have given me for the extension of Your Kingdom and the glory of Your Name. Amen.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

The Bible teaches that each of us is a work of art, designed by God with exquisite beauty for his divine purposes.

Take this Five Talents A.R.T. test below by answering the questions and reflect on how you're investing your abilities, resources, and time.

**A**bilities: These include God-given talents as well as skills that are developed through learning, conscious effort, and hard work. Make a list of your skills and talents. Which abilities do you tend to use more? Which abilities have you seen God use? Do you sense God speaking to you about new ways you can invest your abilities for His Kingdom?

**R**esources: What resources has God blessed you with? Make a list of key assets that come to mind. Consider how each of these assets may be invested for the Master's purposes.

**T**ime: How do you spend your time during a given day or week? What activities are you involved in? More importantly, who are the key people and relationships that God has called you to invest in? What opportunities has God placed before you in this season of life?

