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## Digging Deeper and Rising Higher

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Someone has defined “success” in the eyes of God as “faithfulness.” What do you think they meant? Do you agree?

From the passages in Luke 12, how would you describe a “faithful and sensible steward?”

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## Some Thoughts to Take With You

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Living for others, commitment to God’s redeeming purposes, is a means of grace. We give because of our faith, and it deepens as we give. If we permit ourselves and our people to give casually, we are really teaching contempt.

Richard S. Emrich

Perhaps we feel that we do not see much to encourage us. “I do not envy those who have to fight the battle of Christianity in the twentieth century,” wrote Marcus Dods. “And yet, perhaps I do; but it will be a stiff fight.” Of course, he did, and anybody with his valiant spirit would. There was a day when our Lord passed through cheering streets wildly enthusiastic; and another day when He watched the crowds deserting Him, till even the disciples themselves seemed to be withering, and He looked at them sadly. “Will you also go away?” He said. And Peter strode across the sudden empty spaces widening around Him, and put his back to Christ’s. “No,” he cried; “there are two of us, at least,” and faced the world, Christ’s poor minority of one. I would rather have been Peter than one of the shouting mob. And today, perhaps, we may get our chance of that.

A. J. Gossip

We do not segment our lives, giving some time to God, some to our business or schooling, while keeping parts to ourselves. The idea is to give all of our lives in the presence of God, under the authority of God, and for the honor and glory of God. That is what the Christian life is all about.

R. C. Sproul

## Missional Stewardship #3 Seizing Opportunity

Luke 12:35-48

**Introduction:** Jesus continues his teaching on the topic of Missional Stewardship, and turns from the Don’ts to the Do’s.

- 13-21: Don’t be consumed by greed.
- 22-34: Don’t be overwhelmed by worry.
- 35-48: Do be dressed in readiness; Seize every opportunity to use the resources, and fulfill the mission Jesus Christ has entrusted to us.

### Jesus’ First Command: Be Ready!

Luke 12:35-40

Readiness as faithfulness  
Readiness as honorable  
Readiness as sensible

### Jesus’ Second Command: Be Doing!

Luke 12:41-48a

The faithful, sensible steward  
The unfaithful, senseless steward  
The peril of knowledge without action

### Jesus’ Call on our Lives: Be Aware!

Luke 12:48b

The general principle: everyone  
The individual duty: you and me

### What do we do with all this?

Seizing our grand opportunities at Northpoint . . .  
Your time  
Your skills  
Your money

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# KIDS NOTES

## Seizing Opportunity

### Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

1. Jesus said "Be dressed in \_\_\_\_\_":  
 A. school clothes when you go to church.  
 B. readiness all the time.  
 C. work clothes when you go to work.  
 D. all of the above.

2. A faithful servant:  
 A. honors his or her master by obeying.  
 B. will be honored by the master.  
 C. will act sensibly with the things he or she owns.  
 D. all of the above.

3. Jesus said "From those to whom much is given . . . :  
 A. God will require much.  
 B. people will look for leadership.  
 C. much will be taken away.  
 D. all of the above.

**For Family Discussion:** In what ways can you as a family use your time, skills, and money to fuel the mission of Christ at Northpoint?

### Space to Doodle

### Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>JESUS</b> _____	_____
<b>READY</b> _____	_____
<b>STEWARD</b> _____	_____
<b>FAITHFUL</b> _____	_____
<b>MONEY</b> _____	_____
<b>DOING</b> _____	_____

### Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

JESUS READY STEWARD FAITHFUL MONEY DOING BEING AWARE  
 REQUIRES MUCH GIVEN SENSIBLE SERVANT SLAVE MASTER  
 SIN FAITH TRUST GRACE FORGIVENESS PIECES WILL ACCORD  
 BLESSED HONOR FEAST HOUSE ROBBER PROTECTION

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X P V E D H U B E I N G R Q Q T S
K V I B Y R O R T P O O G Y G L A
S U S E J Z A U Y D B T G Y A A D
L Z F F C R Y W S B P N R V C C Q
Q J N C F E P U E E B A E G U C F
M A S T E R S R M T D V B G Q O H
H T I A F Y M D O E S R K Y Y R F
E L B I S N E S S T R E I S E D A
N I S R Y W M S T Q E S T Q N G I
F O R G I V E N E S S C U F O I T
E M H L Y L O R A G U I T G M V H
C U L C B D O M O W R R N I B E F
A C X V N N A I U E A I T K O N U
R H S N O I W E S G O R G I K N L
G B U H W L B P R D L F E A S T B
    
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