

1. Foundations Lesson 5

- a. One Sentence Summary: We should live for the rewards of eternity because eternity is what life is really about.
- b. Outline
 - i. Introduction
 1. Dickie Love PowerPoint lesson on winners and losers.
 - a. Give this life a little time, 80 years or so, and then eternity will come, and we'll find out that everything is different!
 - b. Those who we thought were winners might end up being losers. Those who we thought were losers, were probably really winners.
 2. Review of lesson 4
 - a. In our last lesson, we talked about living for eternal rewards and not temporal rewards.
 - b. It is not only about rewards that we should live for in light of eternity, there is something even greater than that.
 - ii. Body
 1. In order to have a good foundation, we need to discover the “primary physical phase of life” that we were really created for. There are two key words here:
 - a. “Primary” is obvious. What is our primary phase of life.
 - b. “Physical” refers to our physical being, not our spiritual beings.
 2. In one sense, there are three physical phases of our lives.
 - a. Life in the womb (about nine months)
 - b. Life outside the womb (about 80 or so years)
 - c. Life everlasting- known as eternal life.
 3. Which phase were we created primarily for?
 - a. The primary physical phase of life is not life inside the womb. This is where we physically develop so that we can live and exist outside the womb.
 - b. In the 80 or so years outside the womb, we are alive but if we look at the yarn knot from the last lesson. It would be ridiculous to live for the knot,, that only represented 80 years. The entire skeen of yarn represented over 9.6 million years. The skeen of yarn is nothing compared to eternity
 - c. If we primarily created for these 80 or so years, it would seem like poor time management to create something to be used for 80 years and then put it on a shelf for eternity.
 - i. The womb is physical preparation for our physical life.
 - ii. Once born, our physical life is preparation for our spiritual life with God forever.
 - d. The first phase physically prepares us for the second phase. The second phase spiritually prepares us for the third phase. The end goal is the third phase with God. That is what we were primarily created for!
 - e. God did NOT PRIMARILY create us for these 80 or so years. These are merely the try outs or the preseason games.

4. Our primary phase of life begins when die or we go to be with the Lord. Then we are at the very beginning for the primary purpose as to why we were created.
5. Our time here on this earth are the times when we learn not only to trust Jesus as our Savior, but to learn to walk with him and depend upon Him and prepare ourselves for eternity!
6. If you've come to know Jesus, you're on the team. You are a spiritual being and you have eternal life.!
7. What will we be doing when the primary phase (or purpose)of what we were created for, begins? What will we be doing for all eternity?
 - a. First, we will be co-heirs with Jesus. Romans 8:17: NIV
17Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, We are co-heirs with Christ. What Christ inherits, we will inherit with him. What does He inherit? Christ inherits everything! And we will be co-heirs with him!!!
 - b. We will be “managing” everything together with Jesus. If “managing” is the right word, we'd better be good managers and have great wisdom.
 - c. We will be judging angels. I Cor. 6.2-3 Don't you realize that someday we believers will judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can't you decide even these little things among yourselves? 3Don't you realize that we will judge angels?
 - d. We are going to be judging the world as well as angels, on top of that managing God's entire kingdom, not individually, but corporately as the bride of Christ... as his co-heir.
 - e. Matt. 25- Parable of the Talents- three servants (or slaves depending upon your translation) were each given talents when the king went away. One servant was given five talents. One was given two talents. And one was given one talent.
 - i. 19“Now after a long time the master of those servants came* and settled* accounts with them. (These words “after a long time” indicate that this is after they have lived their life on this earth... Life on earth seems like a long time, but judgment time will come and we will need to reconcile with the King!)
 - ii. 20“The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’ 21“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ “Enter into the Joy of your master.” What a wonderful description of heaven. Being in the Joy of our master. He is talking about beginning eternity with God.

- iii. Notice, how he handled the five talents determined how many talents he would have eternally and what he would be in charge of.
 - iv. The wisdom we learn here on the earth will be used eternally as we fulfill our role as a part of the bride of Christ.
 - v. The servant with two talents gained two more. 23“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’”
 - vi. He had two. He will be put in charge of many things... that’s when his purpose really begins. He will be in the presence of the Joy of His master...as co-heirs with Christ, inheriting the entire kingdom.
 - vii. The five and two talents were merely tests for the King’s real purpose. The king wanted to see, could they handle things well? If so, He’ll put them in charge of many things, far more precious, far more valuable for all eternity!
 - viii. And what about the one who only had 1 talent? The King was angry at the one who didn’t do anything with his talents. He wasn’t preparing for eternity; he was living for the knot....
 - ix. What do we learn from this parable? We are to live for eternity, and how we use our lives here on this earth will determine what kind of purpose and rewards we will have for all eternity.
 - x. Therefore, we need to be faithful with the gifts we have been given because they will prepare us for eternity. If you are faithful in the little things, you will be faithful in the big things.
- f. Luke 19.11 Jesus speaks of talents being given out again. This time there are ten servants (or slaves) and there are ten minas. So EACH servant was given one mina.
- i. Then a man of noble birth goes off to a distant land to be appointed king and then returns to reconcile. Returning again, much like Jesus’ second coming...
 - ii. 16 The first servant reported, ‘Master, I invested your money and made ten times the original amount!’ 17“‘Well done!’ the king exclaimed. ‘You are a good servant. You have been faithful with the little I entrusted to you, so you will be governor of ten cities as your reward.’
 - iii. Again, note how he used his mina determined what he would be doing for all eternity! How he would be ruling and reigning.

- iv. 18“The next servant reported, ‘Master, I invested your money and made five times the original amount.’
19“‘Well done!’ the king said. ‘You will be governor over five cities.’ Again, he was faithful with a little, he was given much... for eternity!
 - v. 20“But the third servant brought back only the original amount of money and said, ‘Master, I hid your money and kept it safe. The king was very angry with the servant and the king ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one who has ten pounds.’
 - vi. God was making a point. He rewards those who maximize the use of their gifts.
 - vii. God not only wants you to be faithful with the gifts He has given you (as we learned in the other parable), He wants you to maximize the use of those gifts!
 - viii. Why? We'll be given a greater purpose once we get to heaven... To rule and reign with him as co-heirs over everything.
8. Life doesn't begin until you die. Only then will we begin to realize the true purpose as to why we were created.
 9. The unborn are being prepared physically to survive in this world. Those alive today are being prepared spiritually to rule and reign with Christ as co-heirs of God's kingdom.
 10. Our greatest fear is that you and I will get to eternity and realize, “OH MY Goodness, I was living for the wrong thing. I was living for myself. I thought life revolved around me, but I was wrong! It revolved around God and I wasted so many gifts, and talents and time!
 11. Review
 - a. In our first lecture, we learned that we have to lay a good foundation. If not, everything else is going to crumble.
 - b. In our second lecture, we learned the simple truth that there is a throne, and God sits on that throne.(literal throne)
 - c. In our third lecture, we learned that not only is He on the throne, but everything revolves around Him. He is the center of the universe; everything is from him, through him and to him. Life is about him, not us.
 - d. In our fourth lecture, we discovered that we should live for the rewards of eternity. God constantly tells us to live with an eternal perspective. Our lives are short here. We must live with eternity in mind.
 - e. And lastly, we just learned that not only should we live for the rewards of eternity, eternity is really what life is all about! Life doesn't begin until we die!

iii. Conclusion:

1. We need to be faithful with the gifts we have been given and maximize the use of those gifts. Doing that will better prepare us to be co-heirs with Christ eternally.

2. Once you get the right foundation, you will be living for eternity, and you'll be so much closer to giving God his greatest glory and gaining the greatest joy!