

Title: **Occupy Till I Come**

Speaker: **Pastor Timothy Ong**

Text: **Luke 12:35** (NIV)

"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning"

Luke 19:13 (NIV)

"So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'

Introduction

A casual reading will right away tell us that God want us to be people who are engage in meaningful and profitable work. It does not matter how much profit you make. As long as you 'do something with what God has entrusted to you'.

What God will NOT accept is that you do nothing about what He has entrusted to you. And when you let your talents go to waste.

Body

1) Why did Jesus speak this parable?

Lk.19:11 Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable,

- because He was near Jerusalem and
- because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately.

2) The Core Moral of the Parable - Accountability.

a. Command

- "Do business till I come"
- As Christians we are 'forward looking'.
- While we "Do business", we have in mind that Jesus is coming back.
- It is like when we partake of communion, we look forward to His soon coming.

1 Corinthians 11:26 (NIV)

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We serve for the future. We live the present in the light of eternity.

b. Accountability

- Everyone has to give an account of his/ her own life.

Luke 19:15

"And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

- We are accountable for all that we have.

Luke 19:16-19

v.16 "Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.'

v.17 "And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'

v.18 "And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.'

v.19 "Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'

We are accountable for what we have done with all that God has given to us.

And, also for what we have NOT done with all that God has given to us.

Luke 19:20-21, 23

v.20 "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief.

v.21 'For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'

v.23 'Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?'

- c. We are accountable for what we say.

Luke 19:22-23

v.22 "And he said to him, '**Out of your own mouth I will judge you**, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow.

v.23 'Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?'

The servant could have asked for mercy.

Don't blame someone else for your own wrong.

3) The Core Value of the Parable – Reward

Everyone one who serves God will be rewarded.

Luke 19:24-26

v.24 "And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.'

v.25 ("But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.')

v.26 'For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

Conclusion

When it comes to recognition.

Human being see the big things as 'BIG'.

God sees the small things as 'BIG'.

Sometimes you have done something for God unaware.

Matthew 25:34-46

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' 41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' 44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' 45 "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' 46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."