

## *The Message Notes*

**Series:** Our Community in Christ

**Message:** *Community of Excellence*

**Messenger:** Pastor Keith

**Date:** August 11, 2024

**Text:** Matthew 25:22-23 (NKJV)



**Matthew 25:22.** The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.' **23.** The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together.'

1. Name three benefits for being part of the **community** of Christ:
  - a) Proves the \_\_\_\_\_ of our faith.
  - b) Gives us a people to \_\_\_\_\_ with.
  - c) You find your \_\_\_\_\_ in life in relationship to others.
  
2. **Envision** us building our **community in Christ** by being:
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_ – God's personality, purpose, and principles are the center of all teachings. God's word is feared and obeyed and is the celebrity of the worship service.
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_ – followers fit together perfectly. Each follower does their part to S.I.T. together to help one another grow in their purpose, so the whole body is healthy, maturing, and expressing love to one another.
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_ – followers are fulfilling the five-fold purpose they were created by God to fulfill: (1) worship (a lifestyle that pleases God), (2) maturity (Christlike), (3) fellowship (connected), (4) ministry (service), and (5) mission (gospel).
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_ – the next generation actively seeks wisdom from the current generation as they're being equipped to face the spirit of their age.
  
3. Describe excellence:
  - a) Excellence is \_\_\_\_\_ quality (stands out).
  - b) Excellence is \_\_\_\_\_ (detailed).
  - c) Excellence is \_\_\_\_\_ (we pay for it).

4. Explain God's excellence in creation according to Genesis 1:3-4:

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5. Explain God's excellence for followers of Christ according to John 15:1-2:

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6. Do you possess a spirit of excellence according to our definition? A standard that puts forth the extra effort to be extraordinary, so whatever you do reaches the highest quality possible which separates you from the ordinary. Please explain:

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7. Name the three reasons WHY we live a life of excellence:

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ God – I Corinthians 10:31
- b) \_\_\_\_\_ recognition – Proverbs 22:29
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ to others – Matthew 5:16

**Envision** our **Community** of Excellence: We maintain a standard that puts in the extra effort, so we can reach the highest quality possible in whatsoever we do to display God's excellence.

8. Explain the character of excellence and the motivation to live by a spirit of excellence according to Matthew 25:22-23:

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