



# ENDGAME

## Timeline

#NPENDGAME

Week 2  
2 of 5

November 13, 2016

**Bottom Line:** Live a life that God rewards.

**Icebreaker:** When people use the word “soul,” what do they typically mean? How is the Christian definition of soul similar to and different from the non-Christian’s?

**Key Verse:** *His master replied, “I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? Why then didn’t you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?”* Luke 19:22-23 from Luke 19:11-27

Jesus began His parable by explaining that a certain nobleman went to a far country to receive kingly authority. We understand Jesus was using the parable to refer to Himself as King of the kingdom. The far country related to Jesus’ death, resurrection, and ascension. Through this parable, Jesus communicated to His followers that there would be a delay in the fulfillment of the kingdom of God, and that there is a right way to live as His disciples until He returns.

A minas (v. 13) was the equivalent of about three months’ wages. The parable is intended to highlight how God graciously blesses us with talents, resources, and gifts that He intends for us to use to glorify Him. The parable also warned the listeners not to expect an immediate consummation of the kingdom and taught that, until that time, believers would be held accountable for their stewardship of their lives. Understanding that the slaves represent believers in Christ makes clear the application for disciples, both then and now. Jesus was about to leave His followers and return to His Father in heaven. One day He will return, but in the meantime His followers must serve Him faithfully with all He has entrusted to them.

That we will be held accountable for what we do and how we live, even as believers in Jesus Christ, is a sobering reality. We will be forgiven for all wrongdoing because we have trusted in Jesus, but Jesus knows all that we do and all that we are, and He expects us to be faithful to Him.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on Dwight’s message, what stood out to you?

Dwight said there are six major events in our timeline: life, death, destination, resurrection, repayment, and eternity.

The Two Truths:

- Eternal life is based on our belief. This determines *where* you will spend eternity.
- Eternal rewards are based on our behavior. This determines *how* you will spend eternity.

The third slave claimed he stowed away his minas because he feared his master. What fears have kept you from faithfulness? How might you move past those fears and begin living intentionally for Jesus?

What is Jesus saying about His kingdom? What is He saying about His expectations for kingdom people?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

What earthly rewards might believers experience when they faithfully serve God?

What heavenly rewards might believers experience in the future as a result of having faithfully served God?

What talents and resources do you think God has given you?

How do you feel about the way you have invested your talents and resources? Are you using them to bring God glory, or do you need Him to repurpose them?

In what area of your life do you most struggle to live intentionally? How will you begin to pay more attention to this area?

What is one thing God has entrusted you with? How does it require love to use what God has given you?

# NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together, as a group:

1. Many of us never start living more intentionally because we try and work on every area of life at once, instead of one area at a time. Have everyone identify one area to work on, and brainstorm together how to address those areas.
2. Praise God for giving you a kingdom purpose. Ask God to give you the grace to live into this kingdom purpose every day. Confess the areas of your life where you could use more intentionality and pray for the Spirit's help in those areas.

## EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** Live a life that God rewards.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Day 1: 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

Day 2: 1 Corinthians 3:12-14

Day 3: Matthew 7:24-27

Day 4: Matthew 25:23

Day 5: Matthew 5:6

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***

*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*