

When we were without strength and ungodly, GOD demonstrated His love for us. As a sinner deserving of death, Jesus died in our place.

If you are devaluing yourself and your ability, STOP! You and your work matter to GOD. Never devalue what you bring. Never think that you are insignificant and therefore bury your talent. Whatever GOD has given you, take it, use it, and give it back to GOD.

*“Everyone who uses what they have will get more. They will have much more than they need. But people who do not use what they have will have everything taken away from them.”* Matthew 25:29 (ERV)

Written by; Jay Dixon

Article taken from; [prosperingpathway.wordpress.com](http://prosperingpathway.wordpress.com)

## Marietta church of Christ

8150 Driggers St.  
Jacksonville, FL 32220

### Times of Worship

Sunday:

9 am - Bible Classes / 10 am - Worship / 5 pm - Worship

Wednesday:

7 pm - Bible Study/Worship

Evangelist: Devin Barber

[www.mariettacoc.com](http://www.mariettacoc.com)



### Choosing The Good Part

Luke 10.38-42

In this passage Jesus enters the home of Martha and Mary, the two sisters of Lazarus. Martha welcomed Jesus into their home and she began to serve Him, while her sister Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to His teaching. Martha being left to serve alone troubled her enough to say to Jesus “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me” (v. 40). Jesus responds to her by saying, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her” (vv. 41b-42). There is a contrast in priorities of the two sisters, Martha seemed to have more concern for the physical, while Mary chose the spiritual. Jesus does not rebuke Martha for her serving, but calls her “worried and troubled” or “anxious and troubled” (ESV). Martha was so wrapped up in serving that she neglected what was most important.

Where do our priorities lie? Are we so caught up in the world that we neglect our service to the Lord? Jobs are needed to provide for ourselves and our families, but is your job putting you in a position that causes you to compromise your faith by engaging in sinful acts? Is it taking you away from assembling with the saints? Have you become so caught up in chasing the money, that you have lost interest, or don't have time to chase after the faith by studying God's word? Jobs and the pursuit of riches are the best examples of modern day idols. If a person's work is preventing them from carrying out the work of the Lord, then it's time to consider a change.

It's nice to have friends, but are they influencing you more than you are them? Are they participating in activities that a child of God should avoid? Are they constantly trying to take you away from God instead of helping you grow closer to Him? It can be hard to sever ties, but if is done to keep ourselves unspotted from the world then it is worth it. Instead we should seek association with people of a like-minded faith and cherish these relationships. We should look for opportunities to be around such people. This is how we grow together.

Similar questions should be asked about our hobbies, the TV shows we watch, the music we listen to, or the things we read. Not everything in the world is harmful or sinful, there is much good, but we must set our priorities in the proper order.

If we put these worldly matters ahead of the things of God, then we are like Martha who chose to take care of the household serving, instead of being like Mary who chose to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to His teaching. The things of this world will one day pass away, they have no purpose beyond this physical world. But Jesus praised Mary because she chose that "which will not be taken away from her." The things of God will last forever, they will not be taken away, they have benefit both in this life and the one to come. So when it comes to priorities, which will you put first, that which will last forever, or that which has an end? The choice seems easy.

Written by; Derek Steen

## Stop Devaluing Yourself

GOD takes great joy in those who are willing to practice humility. Jesus taught His disciples that true greatness in the Kingdom would come to those who were willing to be humble as a little child. (Matthew 18:4) However, practicing humility and devaluing our worth is not the same. Declaring ourselves worthless as a worker in GOD'S Kingdom is just as, if not more dangerous, than being prideful.

In Matthew 25:14-30, Jesus tells a parable that illustrates this danger. Three servants were given talents by their master and instructed to take what they had been given and be productive. *"A talent was a large sum of money, about six thousand denarii. denarius represented the day's wage for a typical working man."* (NNIBC) The first servant was given five talents, the second two, and the third, one. The five talent and two talent servants took their talents and were profitable. The Master was pleased and rewarded them. The third however, did nothing with his talent, other than cover it with dirt. When the Master came to him, he said, *'Lord, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter. And because I was afraid, I went and hid your talent in the earth. Now look, you have your own.'* Matthew 25:24-25

This servant hid his talent because he was afraid. He doubted his ability to be profitable with what his master had given him. He feared his master's expectations and his assessment of his ability to meet those expectations was lacking. As a result, his master declared him lazy and unprofitable. The servant's talent was taken away and he was cast out of the presence of his master. Matthew 25:26-30

You matter to GOD. I matter to GOD. I know because the Bible tells me so!

*"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Romans 5:6-8

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