



MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

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www.mountainstreamchurch.com

NO BURIED TREASURE

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



Matthew 25:18
But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

What was he thinking? How could he have thought this was a good idea? According to Jesus' story, three men were entrusted with varying amounts of their master's money to invest in his absence.

Two of them immediately invested their portions and presented their master with the profits upon his return from a long journey. Their happy master commended and rewarded them for their stewardship. The third, however, chose to bury his portion in the ground, and upon his master's return presented him with

exactly what he had been initially given. His angry master confiscated his money and cast him out of his sight and service. The servant's buried money proved to be no buried treasure.

Like the master in the story, Jesus has given each member of His body (every Christian) a spiritual gift (Ephesians 4:7) that is to be invested in the ministry of the church (Ephesians 4:12). While many Christians invest their gifts to the fullest, there are others who refuse to use theirs. Like the third servant in Jesus' story, (He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' Matthew 25:24-25) they make excuses for not investing their talents or spiritual gifts. While they may be satisfied with their excuses, in the end Christ will expose their excuses as flimsy rags of folly. They will experience bitter loss and sor-

row for their foolishness.

Because Jesus wants to protect us from such a disaster. He not only gifted us with spiritual abilities (Ephesians 4:7), but also provided us with spiritual leaders – coaches if you will – to help us be our best (Ephesians 11-12). The spiritual gifts and abilities entrusted to us by God are precious resources that must not be hoarded or hidden but developed and deployed. Do not squelch or deny your gifts. Do not compare them with others' gifts. Determine, with the help of the spiritual leaders God has given you, to develop and use your individual gift(s) for the furtherance of His purposes on earth. Otherwise, one day you will ruefully discover that your buried resources were no treasure. Spiritual gifts are only treasures when they are used for God's purposes.

Begin using your treasure today!

God bless you,
 Pastor James

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CORPORATE PRAYER
TUE @ 7 PM

SEP 20

Join us via Zoom video

Please contact Pastor James for log on information at rcantio@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP
FRI @ 6:45 PM

SEP 23

In-person at church.

For teens ages 13 and over

EVENING SERVICE
1st & 3rd
SUN @ 6 PM

OCT 2 & OCT 16

Join us in-person at church

KIDZONE & NURSERY
SUN @ 11 AM

SEP 25

These ministries are available every Sunday during the morning service

Kidzone for ages 6-12 yrs. old.

GROWTH GROUPS
THU & FRI @ 7 PM

BEGIN OCT 6 & OCT 7

In-person at church.

Plan to attend one convenient to you.

Sign-up on our website or the Info. Ctr.

WORSHIP SERVICE
SUN @ 11 AM

SEP 25

In-person service & livestream

Livestreaming is only on Facebook and our church's website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Explore Mountain Stream Classes for those interested in becoming members or just finding out what Mountain Stream believes continue this Sunday at 10 am.
- Ladies Meeting this Saturday @ 10:30 am.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 3:15 at the Meadows at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- Join us for our Friend Day and 14th Anniversary celebration on Sunday October 2. Plan to stay for the free potluck International Luncheon that will follow the morning service.
- Married? Unmarried? Hoping to get married? Written off marriage? Loving your marriage? Hating your marriage? Whatever your status or attitudes towards marriage, join us 6 pm Sundays in September at our evening services for honest, practical discussions on Making Marriage Work.
- We'll be joining with our township to pick up our community streets on September 24. Please contact Tom Watson if you are interested in joining us.
- Growth Groups begin Thursday October 6th, and Friday Oct 7th. Sign up at the Information Center or online to attend a group convenient to you
- The Pregnancy Resource Center of the Poconos will be hosting its fundraising Walk for Life on Saturday October 1. Contact Lori Ditaranto for details.
- Calvary School of the Bible (CBS) offers a 3-year program with courses on Christian living, ministries, theology, and Bible book surveys. Check out this link to some uploaded classes www.cbcpoconos.org and contact H. Lee Thompson directly at hleet1412@gmail.com for more information.
- Bible Reading plans for 2022 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!