

November 5, 2017
“Excuses! Excuses!”
(Matthew 25: 14-30)

The saying: “*He who really wants to do something finds a _____; he who doesn’t finds an _____.*”

Baseball manager, Casey Stengel, said he could never stand to have what he called, a “_____ - _____” in his lineup.

This parable is traditionally known as the parable of the talents, but in the NIV it’s known as the parable of the bags of _____.

What is Jesus trying to say to us in this parable? What practical wisdom can we gain from it?

We need to begin here:

#1. – We are _____ for how we live our lives.

You and I are responsible for the _____ we make.

It’s compared to what a pilot instructor wrote in a logbook:

“P.I.C.” stand for: “_____ in _____.”

We are all responsible for how we _____ with our lives.

#2. – Circumstances rarely determine our _____. Our _____ determines our destiny.

Stephen Hawking: “*Maybe it says something about human nature, that the only form of life we have created so far is purely destructive.*”

Hawking may not be religious, but still, he has an accurate insight into humanity’s essential _____.

We should have nothing but _____ for people who are not equipped to deal with their circumstances.

(over)

We should never pass _____ on another human being.

Jesus told a parable about a man who was given a gift and he _____ it in the ground.

Are you constantly looking for _____ why you aren’t doing what God has called you to do?

Most of us can do better. And the Master will be pleased if we do.

What is the gift that God has given you?

How are you using that gift?

Would the Master be pleased?