

Real freedom is the ability to choose. But at its core, every level of freedom you want in your life is found on the other side of accountability. This guide walks you through the key framework from the Parable of the Talents so you can honestly assess where you are and what needs to change.

### THE CORE TRUTH

- ✓ Freedom is the ability to choose and determine your own destiny.
- ✓ Every level of freedom you want requires an equal level of accountability.
- ✓ Accountability is the ability to give account for what has been entrusted to you.
- ✓ Where you have authority (the power to choose), you carry accountability.

### 4 LESSONS FROM THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

#### 1. Accountability is personal, not comparative

You are held accountable for your own gifts and opportunities, not someone else's. The question is always: did you do what you should with what you had?

#### 2. Truly accountable people figure it out

The master left no manual. Accountable people do not wait for a roadmap. They are resourceful. They say: if it is going to be, it is up to me.

#### 3. Mediocrity is a choice

The servant who buried his talent did not lose it. He just did not grow it. Settling for status quo with what you have been given is its own kind of failure.

#### 4. Fear costs you more than risk ever will

Playing small out of fear does not protect you. It keeps you stuck. Courageous action is required when much has been given.

### THE 3-PART ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

#### 1 Understand what has been entrusted to you

Time, money, relationships, influence, leadership, God-given gifts. Do not underestimate what you carry.

#### 2 Ask: what did I do with what was given?

Did you make the right choices? Set the right priorities? Were you faithful with your time and opportunities?

#### 3 Be honest about what it produced

Truthful reporting means no blame, no excuses. Did you grow what was entrusted to you?

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Q1. Where in your life are you chasing freedom but avoiding accountability?
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- Q2. What has been entrusted to you (time, talent, opportunity, relationships) that you have not fully invested in?
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- Q3. Is fear keeping you from growing what you have been given? What would it look like to act courageously in that area?
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- Q4. Where have you been waiting for someone else to give you a roadmap instead of figuring it out?
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- Q5. When you give honest account of the last 90 days, what do the results tell you?
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### KEY TAKEAWAY

Accountability leads to authority. Authority leads to freedom. You cannot skip steps.