

# USE IT OR LOSE IT

*Theme: Using your abilities*

*Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30 (Parable of the Talents)*



Have you ever heard anyone say, “Use it or lose it.”? Well, Jesus explains what that means by telling a story about a man who was going away on a trip. Before he left he called in his three servants and gave them each some money. He told them to use the money wisely while he was away, and when he came back he’d see what they had done with it.

When he came back from his trip he found that two of the servants had used the money so wisely they now had twice as much money as they did before. So the man said to them, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” But the third servant had not used the money wisely. Instead he simply buried it in the ground.

Well, as you can imagine, the man was very upset with him. In fact, he took the money away from him and gave it to one of the other servants who had done well. Use it or lose it!

It’s the same with everything God gives us, including our abilities. Whatever ability God gives us he wants us to use it. And if we use it, it will grow; but if we don’t use it, we lose it. Is anyone here a good singer? If you keep at it, your talent will grow. But if you don’t, you’ll lose it. Is anyone a dancer? Same thing – use it or lose it. Maybe you’re good at math or spelling. Use it or lose it! Maybe you’re good at base-ball. Use it...or lose it!

You know, that’s something we should pray about. Father in Heaven, thank you for all the special abilities you’ve given each one of us. Help us to use those abilities to glorify you and to help others. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

*Song: “Count Your Blessings”*