



PREPARE MODULE #1

LEADER:: CREATIVE | EASTSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

COMPETENCY: Identify opportunities for personal development and development of others.

OBJECTIVE: Our hope is that during this module we will grasp the importance of learning from both our successes and our failures, and that we will continue (as creatives) to always take the posture of the learner so that we can continue in the development of ourselves and help others in their path as well.

ASSIGNMENTS:

- *Assignment 1 // Read Matthew 25:14-30*
- *Assignment 2 // Watch Success, Failure, and the Drive to Keep Creating*
https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_gilbert_success_failure_and_the_drive_to_keep_creating#t-412216
- *Assignment 3 // Read on Reflective Practice from Skills You Need*
<https://www.skillsyouneed.com/ps/reflective-practice.html>

ASSIGNMENT 1

Matthew 25:14-30 (ESV)

“For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant.[c] You have been faithful over a

little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ 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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’ But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

QUESTIONS:

1. *The parable of the talents, reminds us that God has entrusted each of us with gifts, talents and resources. Each servant received a different amount of talents and chose how to invest in them. Similarly as creatives, we have each received a gift from God, but it is up to us to properly invest in our giftings to grow and develop in that skill area. Have you ever had a season where you felt you weren't investing in your gift or skill? What was the result?*
2. *In seasons where you devoted yourself to development of your skill, did you feel that you grew and were honored by God for the investment in the giftings he gave you?*

3. *How could teach others about the importance of investing in your talents to bring glory to God?*

ASSIGNMENT 2

Elizabeth Gilbert's TED Talk

"Success, Failure and the Drive to Keep Creating"

(https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_gilbert_success_failure_and_the_drive_to_keep_creating#t-4I22I6)

"Elizabeth Gilbert was once an "unpublished diner waitress," devastated by rejection letters. And yet, in the wake of the success of 'Eat, Pray, Love,' she found herself identifying strongly with her former self. With beautiful insight, Gilbert reflects on why success can be as disorienting as failure and offers a simple -- though hard -- way to carry on, regardless of outcomes."

QUESTIONS:

1. *Have you ever achieved a success or failure that stifled your ability to continue to create?*
2. *Elizabeth references not quitting, but always going home when faced with a creative block. What would you say your "home" is as it pertains to your specific creative discipline?*
3. *What have you learned from both your successes and your failures, which spurred you on more to create more?*

