

**Announcements**

- This week, we will cover HWMR Week 8 "A Life-ministering Service".
- The weekly ministry webcast will resume on Wednesday in the following homes:
  - Andy Wu - Redmond 206 617 7767
  - Lancaster - Bothell 425 482 4499
  - Miyake - Central 206 290 3787
  - Horace Wang - Somerset 425 653 2249 (Chinese language)
- Children's meetings will resume on September 11.
- A Labor Day conference focused on gaining African-Americans and African peoples for the Lord's testimony will be held in Houston on Sept 2 to Sept 4. The subject will be "Four Great Emphases in the Lord's Recovery for Carrying Out God's Divine Economy". Registration is required by this Monday, August 22nd. Details are posted on the bulletin board.
- Please fill out the service sign-up sheet and place in the box on the counter.
- Main Hall cleaning Central group (Miyake, Schneider, Lee etc)
- Second floor/entry area cleaning (Somerset group)

**Schedule**

- Saturday breakfast 8:30am
- Wednesday ministry webcast 7:30 pm
- Bible distribution at Bellevue college September 27, 28.

**Burdens for Prayer**

- Small groups
- Elections
- Bellevue College

<b>This Week: August 22 - 28</b>		
<b>Morning Revival:</b> <i>Service for the Building up of the Church, week 8</i>		
Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Team 1 (Miyakes, Schneiders, Lees, Guerrerros' Home meeting) Upstairs – Sammamish & Somerset		
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:30 pm	Corporate prayer at meeting hall
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 am	Sisters' prayer meeting
	7:30 pm	Ministry Webcast
<b>Saturday</b>	8:30 am	Breakfast
<b>Lord's Day</b>	9:30 am	Lord's Table

**Ministry Reading Portion**

Basic Lessons on Service

**CHAPTER THIRTEEN**

I. THE DANGER:

A. Beating Our Fellow Slaves—  
Mistreating Fellow Believers

Matthew 24 speaks of the evil slave who "says in his heart, My master delays, and begins to beat his fellow slaves..." (vv. 48-49a). When we mistreat a fellow believer by criticizing, opposing, or despising him, that is to beat him in the eyes of the Lord. We have to say a strong word here. We can easily fall into this danger without any kind of realization. We can fall into criticizing the brothers and sisters. Sometimes we may oppose or despise some of the saints. Perhaps we would even fight against them. This is to beat the Lord's slaves, who are our fellow slaves.

B. Eating and Drinking with the Drunken—  
Keeping Company with People  
Who Are Drunken with Worldly Things

Matthew 24:49b says that this evil slave "eats and drinks with the drunken." The Lord's word in Matthew 24 is a parable. Since it is a parable, it must be interpreted. To eat and drink with the drunken is to keep company with worldly people, who are drunk with worldly things. They are drunk with their worldly enjoyment. This is the danger of not using our gift. Once we become a person who keeps company with worldly

people, we would not be faithful to the Lord in using the gift He gives us, so we fall into danger.

### C. Hiding Our Gift in the Earth

#### 1. Being Passive, Not Active, for the Lord's Service

In Matthew 25:25 the slothful slave said to his master, "I was afraid and went off and hid your talent in the earth; behold, you have what is yours." To be afraid is negative. We should, rather, be positive and aggressive in using the Lord's gift. To go off and hide the Lord's talent in the earth is too passive. We should be active in the Lord's work. If we hide our gift, we do not need to do anything. To be passive and not active for the Lord's service means we are hiding our gift and not using it.

#### 2. Merely Keeping the Lord's Gift, Neither Losing It nor Gaining a Profit by Using It

Merely to keep the Lord's gift and not lose it is not sufficient; we must gain a profit by using it. In this lesson we do not need to get into the full interpretation of this parable, because we can ask the saints to read some of the Life-study Messages in Matthew. But we must stress to them that actually to hide our gift in the earth is not to use it. The earth refers to the worldly things. As long as we do not use our gift, we are hiding it.

We have to point out these three dangers: mistreating fellow believers, keeping company with worldly people, and not using our gift to do the Lord's service. We have to point out that many are hiding their gift, not using their gift, because they do not serve.

**Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes**

Lord's Day, August 21 <sup>st</sup>	1 Sam. 20:1-42
Monday, August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1 Sam. 21:1-22:23
Tuesday, August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	1 Sam. 23:1-24:22
Wednesday, August 24 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam. 25:1-44
Thursday, August 25 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam. 26:1-25
Friday, August 26 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam. 27:1-28:25
Saturday, August 27 <sup>th</sup>	1 Sam. 29:1-30:31