

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Who is the most talented person you've known? What talents are you known for?

READ ABOUT IT:

Philippians 4:8; Genesis 17:17; Ephesians 2:10; Matthew 25:23, 26.

THINK ABOUT IT

- **2. Read Genesis 17:17.** Why did Abraham have trouble believing what God had promised him? Did he believe it when he was younger? What happens to our faith as we get older and our expectations remain unfulfilled?
- **3. Read Ephesians 2:10.** Do you think this verse applies to every believer? How does it affect the way you live every day?
- **4. Read Matthew 25:23, 26.** (*Read the whole story in Matthew 25:23-30*). What does the master in the story have invested in his servants? How much did he trust them? What did he expect of them? Does the master's judgment seem fair to you? Which servant do you most relate to? Why?

DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

5. What would help you to better use what "talents" God has given you: To recognize them? To be more responsible? To believe in yourself as someone God trusts with His gifts? To get more encouragement from others? To trust in God more?

Philippians 4:8

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

Genesis 17:17

¹⁷ Then Abraham bowed down to the ground, <u>but he laughed to</u> <u>himself in disbelief</u>. "How could I become a father at the age of 100?" he thought.

Ephesians 2:10

¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things <u>HE PLANNED FOR US LONG</u> <u>AGO</u>.

Matthew 25:23

²³ "The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!

Matthew 25:26

²⁶ "But the master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn't plant and gathered crops I didn't cultivate, ²⁷ why didn't you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.'