

# INVESTING FOR ETERNITY







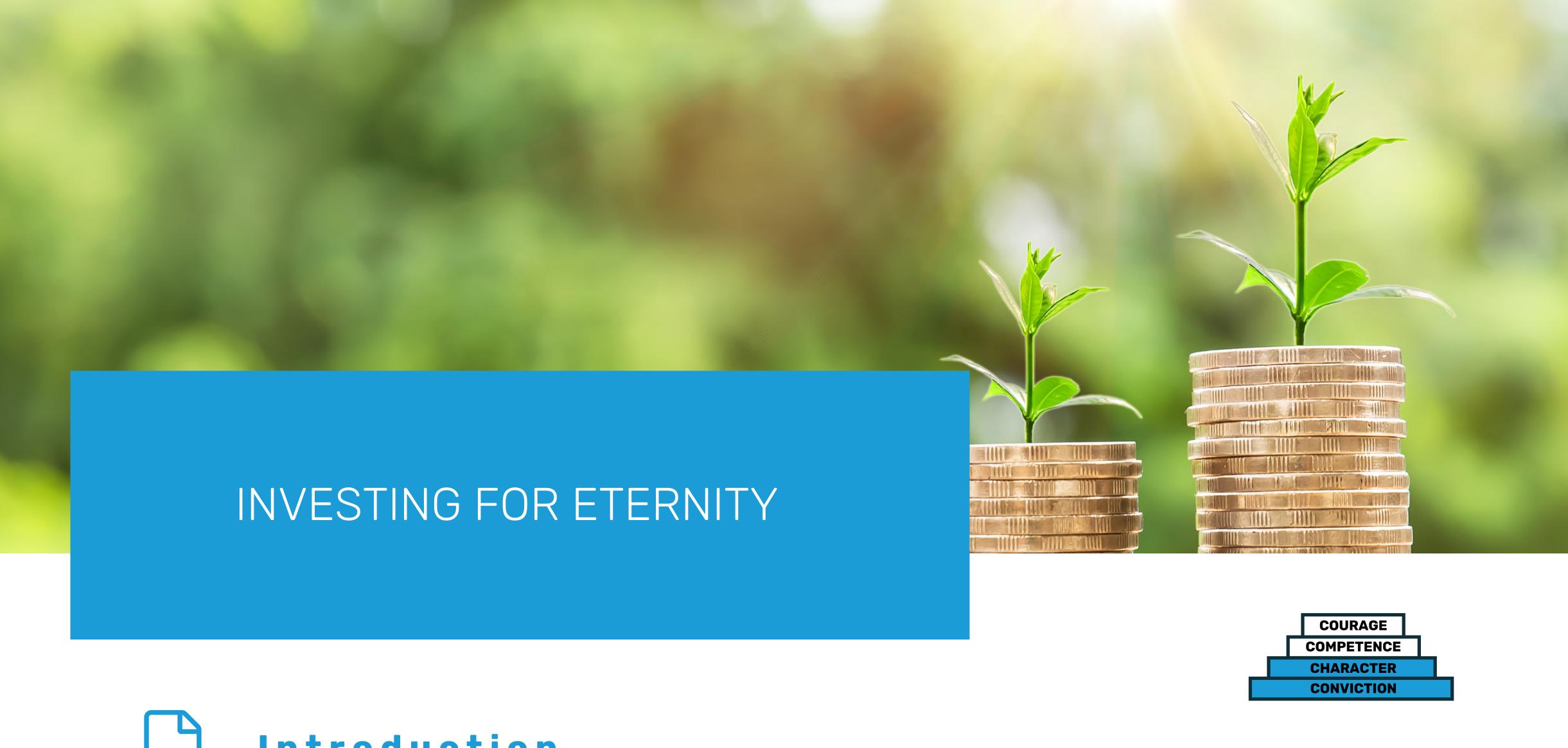


#### Course Summary

This study looks at how Jesus invests in the future - and how we can invest with confidence too.



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#### Introduction

What was your best (or worst) investment?



#### Big Picture

Jesus invests where he gets the greatest return and so should we.



#### Bible Passage

While you read - Which servant should we be?

Jesus said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas.[a] 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'

- <sup>14</sup> "But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.'
- <sup>15</sup> "He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.
- <sup>16</sup> "The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.'
- <sup>17</sup>"'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'



## Bible Passage (cont)

- <sup>18</sup> "The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.'
- 19 "His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.'
- <sup>20</sup>"Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. <sup>21</sup> I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.'
- <sup>22</sup> "His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? <sup>23</sup>Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?'
- <sup>24</sup>"Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.'
- <sup>25</sup> "'Sir,' they said, 'he already has ten!'
- <sup>26</sup>"He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

  Luke 19:12-26



## Key Truths

- 1. Jesus is about to leave his disciples and wants to prepare them for his absence with this story.
- 2. The master invests in his servants while he's away. He expects a return on his investment taking out what he doesn't put in and reaping what he doesn't sow.
- 3. The master rewards with bigger responsibilities his servants who perform well with small responsibilities. The master invests more where he gets the bigger return.

#### Thoughts? Questions?

#### Bonus truth

When we read a parable like this, we often want to tie everything down neatly - but we can miss the clear ideas if we do. The clear implication is we want to be like the successful servants. But what about the "wicked" servant?

The very next verse (v27) deals with the enemies of the master - so the wicked servant doesn't suffer God's judgment - but we don't want to be him (or her) either!

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## Application

Each of us have God-given abilities, wealth, and time to invest for our master Jesus while he is away. When Jesus returns he will ask us to give an account of our stewardship.

Where are you investing God's gifts? Are you generating a return for you master?

If you want bigger responsibilities, how are you going with the small responsibilities God has given you?

Giving regularly to the work of City Bible Forum helps us to continue to see unbelievers meet Jesus in the pages of the Bible. Have you considered investing in City Bible Forum?

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## Prayer

Pray for the finances of City Bible Forum. Under God we seek to raise more regular supporters if we want to reach our nation with the good news of Jesus.

Pray for opportunities to invest in the future of our colleagues.

#### Remember

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DINNER



GOSPEL



