



# MTS MISSION MINDED Newcastle



## PEER GROUPS Strand 2



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# **WELCOME!**

Welcome to MTS Mission Minded Peer Groups! Peer Groups give you the chance to meet with other people who are at the same stage of thinking and discuss, “What will it look like for me to serve God with the rest of my life?”

During this time, you’ll be led by an experienced Ministry Worker and MTS Apprentice to discuss the Bible, reflect on encouragements and challenges from our speakers, and consider decisions about ministry.

# Session One:

# **CONVICTIONS AND GOSPEL MINISTRY**

## **A. Meeting Your Group**

To get started, go around the group and share:

How did you become a Christian?

Where and how are you currently involved in ministry?

Why did you decide to be a part of MTS Mission Minded?

What questions do you hope to explore at MTS Mission Minded?

*(Collect these questions as a group and see if they've been addressed by the final Peer Group session.)*

Pray for your time together.

## **B. Looking at God's Word: Convictions and Gospel Ministry**

1. What would you say to the godly and gifted Christian who says, 'I'm set free by grace, so I have no obligation to God in how I live now'?

**Read Matthew 25:14-30.**

*Note: The previous parable (25:1-13) teaches the importance of being ready for the kingdom of heaven. This parable teaches what it means to be ready for the kingdom.*

**2. Why did the master give different talents to each of his servants?**

*Note: a talent is a large sum of money.*

**3. What did the master expect from each of the servants?**

**4. What do you think each part of the parable represents (the master, the servants, the talents)?**

**5. Why was the master angry with the servant who had 1 talent?**

Do you think this is fair? Why/why not?

6. Jesus uses this parable to show us how to be ready for his return. He also uses it to motivate us by showing that there will be a reward to investing talents well (v21, v23) and punishment for not using what God has given us (v30). How do the rewards and warnings in this parable shape the way you think about God and how you live for him?

Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

7. What is Paul and Apollos's role? What do you think it practically looked like?

8. What does verse 7 mean?

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

9. What does Paul mean by 'winning' people? Who does it?

10. How do you think this fits with 1 Corinthians 3:5-9?

## C. Putting It All Together

1. What does God expect of us as we wait for Jesus to return in light of Matthew 25:14-30?

2. We are saved completely by grace, yet the parable of talents challenges us to think about the 'talents' God has entrusted to us and why. A helpful way to think about the 'talents' is the total life package that God has given us. What is the life package that God has given you that he expects a return on? Try to write a list of all the things you can think of that make up your life package: (think life situation, family, money, gifts, training, education, opportunities, experiences, leaders/mentors, church experience and previous churches, health, etc.)

3. What reflections do you have as you consider this list?

4. How is holding 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 and 9:19-23 together a comfort and a challenge?

5. What are the implications for us considering ministry as we hold the tension of these 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 and 9:19-23 together?

6. What would it look like to live this out in the ministry you're involved in now?

#### **D. Prayer**

In small groups spend some time asking God to help you to invest the 'talents' God has given you wisely and trust him as you work hard to win people for Christ.

# Session Two:

# DECISIONS AND GOSPEL MINISTRY

## A. Reflection

From what you've heard from God's Word so far at MTS Mission Minded, can you share one thing that has been particularly challenging to you?

Pray for your time together.

## B. Article

Scan the QR and read the article:



1. What questions do you have about the article?

2. What stands out to you from the article?

### **C. Putting It All Together**

1. Share in pairs what are the reasons stopping you from gospel ministry?

Are they good, bad or possible reasons?

2. What are the things you need to go away and work on, think about, or do, to take the next step in considering full time gospel ministry?

### **D. Prayer**

Repent of false motives for not pursuing gospel ministry and ask God to help you as you go away to work through your next steps in considering full time gospel ministry

