



WEEK TWO

TALENT

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Nate Alcorn, Director of Impact Ministries at CRB

You have been designed to restore your world through your talents, and you tell God "Thank you" every time you use what He has given you to the best of your ability.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? How close to that old dream is your life right now?

What do you think has changed about you in terms of interests and passions since you were a kid? What has stayed the same?

2. Name five things at which your family, friends, and co-workers would say you excel?

Do you enjoy doing those things?

3. In his message, Nate Alcorn said we express gratitude to God by using the talents and abilities He's given us to the best of our ability. What did he mean by that?

4. What does it mean to you to be creative? Is everyone capable of creativity?

What does it mean to you that God has called us to be creators and restorers?

5. How does Romans 12:3-8 describe our individual abilities? For what purpose are they ours?

What do these verses say should be our attitude toward our talents?

6. In his book, The Hole in our Gospel, Rich Stearns says: “Your talents also include your life experiences. Each of us has a unique life history, made up of our family background, education, professional and work history, experiences and the wisdom gained from them, relationships, and connections. No one has ever lived the same life as you.” What life experiences have you had that have given you wisdom and insights you would not have otherwise?

How do you (or how can you) use these life experiences in service to others and in gratitude to God?

7. Conventional wisdom would say the more we give to others – whether it’s time, talent, or treasure – the poorer we become, but what does Jesus say about that in Luke 6:38?

What else does Jesus say about generosity in this verse?

8. Theologian John Wesley wrote: “Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can.” What is the key takeaway from this quote?

Personal Meditation: This week, consider the three ways Nate talked about in his message for rediscovering your creativity and sense of restoration. In your prayer time, ask God if He is calling you to a career change, or to volunteer, or to regain your passion for where you already are.

Memorize Romans 12:1 - “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”