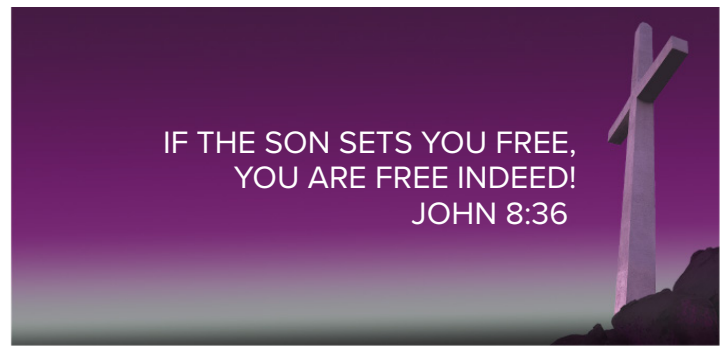


Jesus IOI

“Grace Thoughts”



A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

“For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them.” —Matthew 25:14

It is hard to believe that the man behind the Apple technology that changed the world and the way we communicate was once given up by his unmarried biological parents. Adopted by Paul and Clara Jobs, Steve grew up to become one of the geniuses of our time, leaving a legacy that will impact generations to come. Steve Jobs passed away on October 5, 2011, one day after the iPhone 4S was introduced, leaving an inheritance worth over ten billion dollars.

If one technology whiz could change the way the world communicates, how much more can the followers of Christ influence the whole world with His redemptive gospel? Today’s verse is part of the third parable explaining what Jesus entrusted His disciples to do between His ascension and the Second Coming (Matthew 25:14-30). It would take a long time, and His disciples were to spread the gospel of the kingdom using any and all abilities and gifts that they were given for that purpose. In the parable, the man who is going on a journey entrusts his possessions to his servants. “To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one . . . and he went on his journey. . . . Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them” (verses 15, 19). When the master returned, he found that both the servant with the five talents and the one with the two talents had made a 100 percent return for him. Both were commended: “Well done, good and faithful slave. . . . enter into the joy of your master” (verses 21, 23; see also 24:47). But the third servant said: “I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground” (Matthew 25:25). This slave represents those who have a fear-based religion and are scared to take risks for Christ. God did not intend such a fear-based religious experience for us. He desires that we put it all on the line in order to reach souls for His kingdom; His plan of redemption must be proclaimed. The spreading of the gospel has not been entrusted to the unfallen angels but to us, weak human beings who can testify of the magnitude of the grace of God!

Talbot, Elizabeth *Jesus Wins!*, p. 284.