



Sermon Outline

Key verses

Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability.

Matthew 25:14-15

What does the Parable of the Talents teach us?

1. All things belong to God

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

Psalms 24:1

2. We are stewards

So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Romans 14:12

3. What we do with what we have reveals our view of God

"Master," he said, "I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground."

Matthew 25:24-25

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

AUGUST 25
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Opening Thought

God has entrusted each person with resources to use in furthering his kingdom. We are to faithfully invest our time, talent, and treasure in the things of God. Today's parable illustrates this with three men given different sums of money. To those who used it wisely, the master said, "Well done good and faithful servant!" But the lazy servant was thrown outside. Let's be faithful with what God gives us because he is a good, loving, generous God!

Ice breakers

- If someone loaned you a million dollars, interest free, to be paid back in ten years, what would you do with it?
- Are you more of a saver or a spender?
- What is your hidden talent?

Dig Deeper

- In this parable, what were the master's expectations of the servants?
- Compare the reactions of the master to the first and second servants. (Matthew 25:19-23) What seems to matter to him? What doesn't seem to matter?
- Think of people you have done jobs for. What bearing did your relationship with them have on your attitude toward your work?
- What are the resources God has given us to further his kingdom?
- What does it mean to you to "share your master's happiness?" See Ephesians 5:1-10. What can we learn from these verses?
- What stood out to you from today's sermon?

Closing

The Lord has given you talents to use for his glory. Don't bury them! God gives each of us special abilities and expects us to be faithful in using them. What will he say to you when he returns?