

Entrusted (Matthew 25:14-30)

Have you ever been entrusted with something that was valuable? In Matthew 25 Jesus teaches us that we are to be faithful with all that he has entrusted to us. What has he entrusted to us? And how does our view of God directly impact whether or not we waste it?

1. What are you doing with what God has entrusted to you? (Matthew 25:14 - 23)

In Matthew 24 and 25 Jesus taught that he is going to come back, we don't know when he will come back, but we should live our lives awaiting his second coming.

You and I live in between Christ's two arrivals.

A parable is a created story that illustrates spiritual truth.

A talent was a measurement of weight used to weigh things like heavy bags of gold. Some scholars believe that one talent would be worth around 1 million dollars today. A talent represents what God has entrusted to you

- gifting, skills, responsibilities, opportunities, the Gospel, the faith, time, etc.

The Master represents Jesus

The servants represent disciples of Jesus

2. What is your view of God? (Matthew 25: 24 -30)

V. 24 "hard man" - which means he thought the master was harsh, uncompromising, cruel, and authoritarian.

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. - A.W. Tozer

Exodus 34:6-7 - The most quoted verses in the Bible by the Bible. A clear description of who God is.

"The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." - Exodus 34:6-7

QUESTIONS (Pray, read the passage and pick 4-5 questions to discuss. Trust the Holy Spirit to guide.)

1. If you have ever struggled with what you have been gifted with compared to others, how can this parable help you gain a better perspective on this issue?
2. What are some gifts, abilities, and resources that God has entrusted to you? How can you be faithful with what God has given you?
3. Jude 3 says, "contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people." You have been entrusted with (the Christian) faith. How can you be faithful with "the faith" that has been entrusted to you?
4. In what areas are you prone to focus on the world—on here and now—rather than hearing "Well done, good and faithful servant" at the end of your life?
5. What the servants did with their talent is based solely on what they thought of the Master who gave them the talents. A.W. Tozer is known for saying "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." What comes into your mind when you think about God?
6. What are some negative or untrue things that you sometimes hear about God? What Scripture can combat these views of God?
7. The final servant hid his talent and had a negative view of the master. Was this servant's view of the master accurate? What can we learn from his interaction with the master in verses 24-30?
8. How do people waste the talents that God has given them?

