Small Group Discussion Guide

January 13 & 14, 2018 Parables: What Jesus Really Thinks "Talents" Talk by Scott Sinner

Welcome

Go around the room and affirm the gifts and talents you see in the people of your small group.

Word

- 1. Read Matthew 25:14-30.
 - a. In this story who does the master represent and who do the servants represent?
 - b. In the New Testament, a talent was a weight or measurement of gold or silver, in this story the talent is used as a metaphor. What do the talents represent?
- 2. In verse 15, why does the Jesus add the phrase "each according to his ability?
- 3. In verses 16-23, what is common about the first two servants' response to their talents and the master's response to their accomplishment?
- 4. In verses 21-22, how does the reward compare with what was entrusted?
- 5. In verses 26-30, why do you think the master became angry with the servant who hid his talent?
- 6. If the master was testing his servants as to their diligence and faithfulness during the time he was away...
 - a. What can we learn from the faithful servants?
 - b. What can we learn from the lazy servant?

Weave

- Take some time to evaluate with which servant you most identify.
- How are you being responsible for the Time, Treasure and Talent God has given you?
- ASK where there is a need in God's work and get involved.