

Kingdom Come

Talented Sheep (Mt. 25:14-46)

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

“14 “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money...” – *Matthew 25:14-30 (ESV)*

“31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ 40 And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me....’” – *Matthew 25:31-46 (ESV)*

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Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)

- What separates you from other people?
- What kind of things in life seem like they are either pass or fail? Why does it feel that way

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)

- Read Matthew 25:14-30. What does this parable teach us about stewardship?
- In Matthew 25:13-30, why will whoever has more be given abundance while whoever doesn’t have will have even less?
- Read Matthew 25:31-46. How are the sheep and goats separated? Why does that matter?
- Bonus material: Matthew 26:6-13.

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)

- When have you felt like that you hid your talent instead of putting it to good use?
- Why is helping others like helping Jesus?
- What mercy and grace can be found in these Parables?
- What is Jesus trying to prepare the listeners and readers of these Parable for? What is coming?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)

- How can you be more like a sheep than a goat this week?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)

1. What’s a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How’s your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What’s something you’d like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.