



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 25:14-30” on September 2 & 5, 2021

CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed from Matthew 25:1-13 affect your week?

DISCOVER: MATTHEW 25:14-30

What did the passage say (in your own words) or did you take away from the sermon this week?

1. How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
2. Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn’t understand, phrases that didn’t make sense, etc.)?

MATTHEW 25:14-30 Jesus continues His teaching about the future by sharing the Parable of the Talents. Having spoken about being watchful and being ready for His Second Coming, He now addresses the way we use the time, treasures and abilities with which God has blessed us – how we are leveraging who we are for God’s kingdom as we await His coming.

The Parable: In the parable, the Master represents Jesus; the servants represent those who have said “yes” to Jesus; the talent represents the followers’ time, treasures and abilities, and the Master’s journey represents the time we are given to leverage the moments of our lives while we wait for Jesus to return for the Judgment.

- How would you describe who this Jesus is as your Master to someone who does not yet know Jesus? Consider what you know from Scripture, from your experiences, and from your perspective of faith.
- How would you describe/explain grace to that same person? What does grace mean to you in the living of your life?
- What examples of each of the 3 servants do you see in modern-day terms in today’s culture?
- How would you describe serving Jesus with ‘all your might?’ Is there someone in your life who embodies this concept each day? What can you learn from them?

Leveraging your life as you wait: We are all given different abilities and gifts in differing measures, to be used for His glory. We have the opportunity to make the most of those abilities and gifts as we wait for Jesus, but Satan loves to distract us from our kingdom purposes! Read Ephesians 5:15-17.

- How would you say you are making the most of the opportunities you have been given to use your gifts with all your might? Can you describe times when you may have ‘fallen asleep’ and set those gifts on the shelf as other things in life distract you? Does the delay in His coming give you a false sense of security?
- How often in life are you or those you know paralyzed by fear or by wishing you had gifts and abilities like someone else rather than using what you have been given? Describe situations you have experienced or seen in others’ lives.
- This parable teaches how being faithful in small things can result in being blessed with greater things. How can you apply this concept to your own walk with Jesus?
- James 1:12 speaks of receiving ‘the crown of life’ that God has promised to those who love Him. What does that crown of life mean to you, and how are you leveraging your life as you await Jesus’ coming?

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God’s Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

PRAY for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.