

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE OLIVET DISCOURSE: LIVING FAITHFULLY UNTIL JESUS RETURNS

Sermon Text: Matthew 25:14-30

Date: October 18, 2026

OVERVIEW

In the Parable of the Talents, Jesus teaches that while we await His return, we are called to faithfully steward everything God has entrusted to us for His purposes. The faithful servants respond to their master's generosity with trust and obedience, while the unfaithful servant's actions reveal a heart that does not truly know or trust his master. Our faithfulness does not earn our place in God's kingdom; rather, a life of faithful service is the fruit of belonging to Christ and living in light of His grace and promised return.

Related Scriptures: Ephesians 2:8-10

Read: Matthew 25:14-30

1. What stood out to you from the sermon or passage?
2. Think about how you spend a typical week. What responsibilities, activities, or interests occupy most of your time and attention? Which bring you the most joy, and which tend to distract you from what matters most? If someone looked at your calendar, what might they conclude is most important to you?
3. In the parable, the master entrusts each servant with his own property. What does this teach us about our relationship with God and the things he has given us? How might viewing ourselves as stewards rather than owners change the way we approach our resources, relationships, abilities, and responsibilities?

4. The first two servants received different amounts and produced different returns, yet both heard the same commendation: "Well done, good and faithful servant." What does this reveal about the master's priorities? How can comparison with other Christians distract us from faithfully serving the Lord? Where might God be calling you to sustained faithfulness in an ordinary, unnoticed, or difficult responsibility?

5. Jesus concludes the parable with a sobering judgment against the third servant. What does his response reveal about the seriousness of claiming to belong to Christ while disregarding his authority? How should this warning lead us to examine our hearts without falling into the belief that we earn salvation through good works? *Read Ephesians 2:8-10.* How does the gospel help us understand the relationship between salvation by grace and a life of faithful obedience?

6. In the sermon, Amy Carmichael's vision of people making daisy chains while others walked toward destruction challenged us to consider how easily good things can distract us from Christ's mission. Who has God placed in your life that you could intentionally love, encourage, disciple, or share the gospel with? What might need to change in your priorities or routines to make room for those relationships? How could our Life Group work together to reach and serve others?