## Reflecting on "The Parable of the Talents" Matthew 25:14-30 | February 18, 2024

1) **Read Matthew 25:1-13 and 14-30.** We'll study the Parable of the Ten Virgins in depth in the future, but explain how this story and the Parable of the Talents are similar. If you could summarize the message of these parables in one phrase, what would it be?\*

2) **Read Matthew 25:14-30.** How was the attitude of the two faithful servants different from the attitude of the third servant?\*

3) **Read Matthew 25:24-25.** While Jesus is not comparing the character of God to that of the Master in this parable, our view of God certainly influences whether or not we live for Him. Therefore, how would you describe your own view of God? Can you think of times when this view was tested? How did you respond?

4) **Read Matthew 25:30.** This parable ends with yet another reference to, "weeping and gnashing of teeth." What of the third servant's crimes seem worthy of such punishment? What does this parable teach us about eternity?

5) **Read Matthew 25:14-15.** What special treasure (or talent) has God given all believers to invest? What are some ways you can make that investment this week?\*

6) **Read Matthew 25:15.** This part of the parable reiterates that God has given everyone some level of gifting, and his expectations do not exceed our abilities. What are some talents or abilities you believe God has given you to use for His glory?

<sup>\*</sup> These questions are adapted from *Listen Up: 10-Minute Family Devotions on the Parables* by Marty Machowski