

THREE PARABLES

Pastor Eric Capaci

The Parables of Jesus : August 8, 2021

"How to Stay Focused in the Christian Life: Three Parables"

"And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

—*Hebrews 6:11-12 (ESV)*

"Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth."

—*Colossians 3:2 (ESV)*

"No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, BUT I FOCUS on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead."

—*Philippians 3:13 (NLT)*

The Parable of the 10 Virgins

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept."

—*Matthew 25:1-5 (ESV)*

1. Prepare

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The Parable of the Talents

"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time, the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more. His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid...'"

—Matthew 25:14-21, 24-25 (ESV)

2. Dare

The Parable of the Separation of the Sheep and Goats

"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. 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, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 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 25:34-40 (ESV)

3. Care

PREPARE. DARE. CARE.