

Be Faithful

#GOALS #3 – Pastor Jonathan Combs – January 21, 2018 – Matthew 25:14-30

Matthew 25:14-30 (ESV) 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. ¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ 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.' ²¹ 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.' ²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³ 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.' ²⁴ 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, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Three principles for being faithful:

1. Recognize God's _____.

Psalms 24:1 (NLT) The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.

1 Corinthians 4:2 (ESV) Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

2. Understand God's _____.

The Faithful Steward	The Slothful Steward
"Went at once" (v.16)	"Dug in the ground" (v.18)
"Traded with" (v.16)	"Hid talent" (v.18, 25)
"Made more" (v.16)	"Knew you to be hard" (v.24)
"Good" (v.21, 23)	"I was afraid" (v.25)
"Faithful" (v.21, 23)	"Wicked..worthless" (v.26, 30)
"Faithful over little" (v.21, 23)	"Slothful" (v.26)
"Set over much" (v.21, 23)	"Take talent" (v.28)

Luke 6:38 (ESV) Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

1 Peter 4:10 (ESV) As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace

3. Live for God's _____.

Galatians 1:10 (ESV) For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.