

## On Being Faithful, Part 4

### A Study of Matthew 25:14-30

**Matthew 25:14** "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. **15** And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. **16** Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. **17** And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. **18** But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. **19** After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. **20** So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' **21** His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' **22** He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' **23** His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' **24** Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. **25** And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' **26** But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. **27** So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. **28** Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. **29** For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. **30** And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'" *New King James Version*

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### Big Idea:

**Matthew 25:21** "Well done good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord." *NKJV*

## For Reflection & Discussion

1. Read the following Scriptures on your own. Jot down how they seem to relate to what Jesus says in Matthew 25:14-30. An example is given.
  - a. Matthew 16:27 *Jesus will give rewards based on works when He returns.*
  - b. Romans 12:3-8
  - c. 1 Corinthians 12:1-31
  - d. 2 Corinthians 5:9-11
  - e. 2 Corinthians 10:12-13
  - f. 1 Peter 4:10-11
  - g. 1 Timothy 6:17-19
2. Does the idea of rewards from God bother you or motivate you or both? How so?
3. Biblical rewards include commendation, promotion, celebration, and loss. To what extent do any of these motivate you?
4. What do you think the Lord will take into consideration when giving rewards upon His return?
5. We all have different abilities given to us by God to serve Him in this life. List two or three abilities you think you might have.
6. How can somebody determine what abilities they may have in serving God?
7. What basis do we have for comparing ourselves with other people in terms of our productivity for God? Why?
8. Prayerfully reflect on opportunities you have been given to serve God. How do you feel about the extent to which you are using them? Is there something you sense God wants you to change?

**Matthew 25:21** "Well done good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord." *NKJV*