

Bible Study 03.28.2022

Parable of the Talents - Matthew 25 : 14-30

Highlights v14 - v19

- Illustration of the Kingdom of Heaven
- A man was going on a long journey
- He Divided his money between his servants and entrusted them with it while he was gone
- Based on their ability : first guy received 5 bags, second guy received 2 bags, and the third guy received 1 bag
- The guys that received the 5 bags and the 2 bags went to work and invested the money and each one doubled their investment
- The guy that received 1 bag was afraid to lose it so he dug a hole and buried the money in order to protect it.
- After a long time the man returned to settle his accounts with the servants

Parable of the Talents - Matthew 25 : 14-30

Highlights v20 - v30

- The man praised the two servants that took what they were entrusted and added to it ("Well done, good and faithful servant!"You have been faithful with few things, I will put you in charge of many things")
- The man addressed the third servant and called him lazy and wicked. The bag was taken from him and given to the guy that now has 10 bags
- To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. (Matthew 25:29 NLT)

- The 3 servants were not given the same amount
- The amount given was based on their ability to manage it. (Their capacity - not more than they could handle) We have all heard that "God will not give us more than we can handle". As our capacity grows, so will our responsibility.
- Everything we have is a gift from God and it was given to us so that we may develop it and grow it in a way to bring glory to God and his Kingdom.
- Jesus represents the man in the Parable, the servants represent us, the long journey represents *The Ascension of Jesus,* the bags represent all the gifts and talents we have been given to use until Jesus returns.
- We all have been given Time, Talents, and Treasures (in varying proportions)

Time

- we are all given time, we just don't know how much.
- Same 24 hrs for all but number of days for each of us is unknown (don't wait). "How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone." James 4:14 NLT
- God is not bound by time; we are, so we need to learn how to manage it and use it for His Glory. "So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do."Ephesians 5:15-17 NLT. We need an "internal clock" with a sense of urgency

- ""Lord, remind me how brief my time on earth will be. Remind me that my days are numbered— how fleeting my life is. You have made my life no longer than the width of my hand. My entire lifetime is just a moment to you; at best, each of us is but a breath." Interlude We are merely moving shadows, and all our busy rushing ends in nothing. We heap up wealth, not knowing who will spend it. Psalms 39:4-6 NLT
- We should view time as OPPORTUNITIES and see the value of its full POTENTIAL. We have been called to USE time, not LOSE it.
- Everytime we waste or fail to see an opportunity, time is lost.
- "But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God." Acts of the Apostles 20:24 NLT

- Take advantage of our opportunities He gives us in the "time" he is allowing so that we can bring to reality the things He has placed in our hearts.
- When we accepted Jesus into our hearts, our "time card" was punched and we have work to do until it's time for us to "clock out"

Next week we will dive into "Talents"

- Love you guys, have a good week, and let me know if I can serve or help you in anyway.