

Parable of the Talents: Matthew 25:14-30 — Three servants given talents → Talents are measurements of money.

“Again, it will be like a 14 man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. 15 To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. 17 So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. 18 But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. 19 “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’ 21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ 22 “The man with the two talents also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.’ 23 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ 24 “Then the man who had received the one talent came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ 26 “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. 28 “ ‘Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. 29 For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Questions (on a separate sheet of paper/journal):

1. What are your five best traits or greatest attributes?
2. How do you think God can use your talents for HIS glory?
3. Each person in the parable receives money, but also time – he has to work to make a profit. How can you use all the gifts, time, and even money to glorify God?
4. How are you sometimes like the last servant? What was his excuse?
5. How are you sometimes guided by fear in your decisions, instead of what is right?
6. You are going to receive the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation. How can you best be open to receiving and using the gifts God will give?
7. Write a prayer asking God to give you the strength to see His plan for your life; ask him to give you the grace to always use your talents for His glory and not your own. Say anything else you want to say to God in prayer.