

# Lesson One

## Use God's Gifts

### The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

#### Matthew 25:14-30

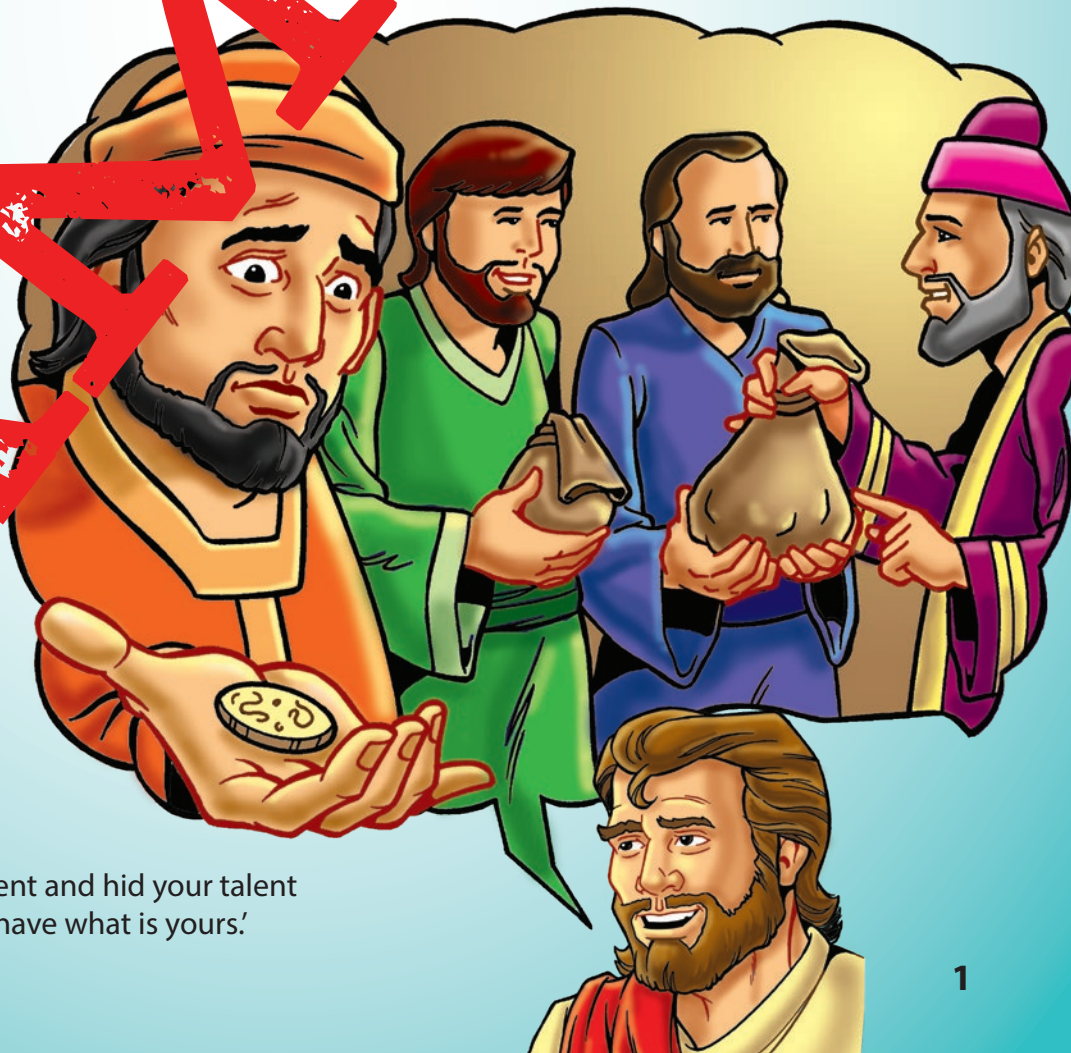
<sup>14</sup> "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. <sup>15</sup> And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. <sup>16</sup> Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup> And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. <sup>19</sup> After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

<sup>20</sup> "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.' <sup>21</sup> 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.' <sup>22</sup> 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.' <sup>23</sup> 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.'

<sup>24</sup> "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I know you are a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.'

<sup>26</sup> "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you know that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. <sup>27</sup> So you ought to have deposited my money with the bank, so that at my coming I would have received back with interest.' <sup>28</sup> So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.

<sup>29</sup> "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. <sup>30</sup> And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."



# SADDLE UP FOR HIS SERVICE

Having then \_\_\_\_\_ differing according  
to the grace that is \_\_\_\_\_ to us, let us  
\_\_\_\_\_ them (Romans 12:6).

## An Inventory of My Gifts

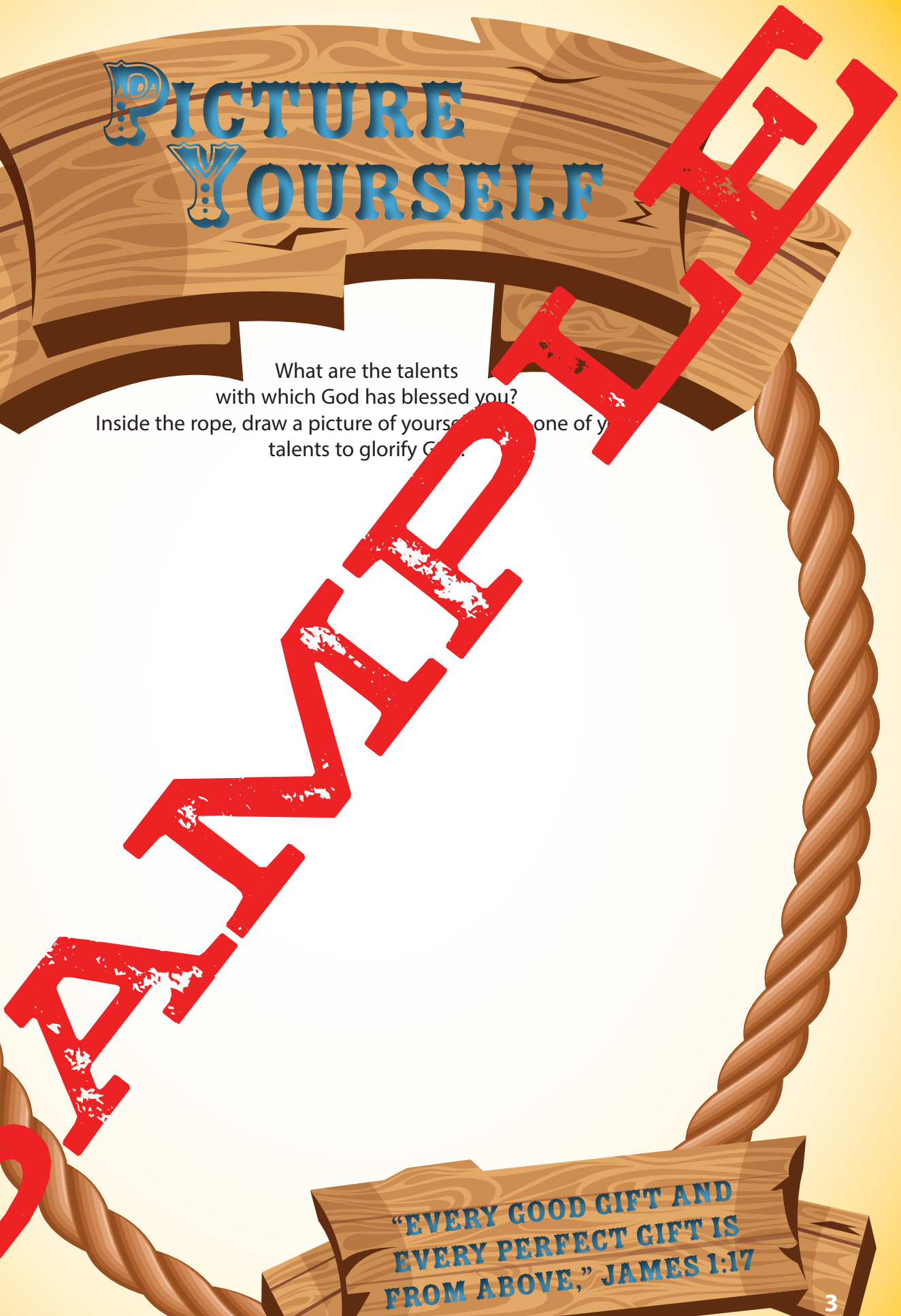
Possessions

Abilities

\_\_\_\_\_ to whom much is  
\_\_\_\_\_ from him \_\_\_\_\_ will be  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 12:48).

# PICTURE YOURSELF

What are the talents  
with which God has blessed you?  
Inside the rope, draw a picture of yourself using one of your  
talents to glorify God.



**"EVERY GOOD GIFT AND  
EVERY PERFECT GIFT IS  
FROM ABOVE," JAMES 1:17**

# TALENTED CROSSWORD

Solve the puzzle to review the Parable of the Talents.

## ACROSS

1. "Whatever you do, do all to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31
4. "Every good gift and every \_\_\_\_\_ gift is from above," James 1:17.
5. The parable of the talents was told by \_\_\_\_\_.
6. "It is required in stewards that one be found \_\_\_\_\_." 1 Corinthians
8. The third servant dug a hole and \_\_\_\_\_ his talent.
10. It was ordered that the third servant be "cast into outer \_\_\_\_\_." Matthew
12. "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as \_\_\_\_\_ the manifold grace of God." 1 Peter 4:10

## DOWN

1. "Having then \_\_\_\_\_ differing according to the grace \_\_\_\_\_ that is given to us, let us use them." Romans 12:6
2. Number of talents given to the third servant.
3. "For everyone to whom much is given, from him \_\_\_\_\_ much will be \_\_\_\_\_." Luke 12:48
4. Jesus told \_\_\_\_\_ to help teach His lessons.
7. A \_\_\_\_\_ was a weight used to determine value.

The crossword puzzle grid consists of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The grid is partially obscured by a large red watermark that reads 'COPYRIGHT' diagonally across the page.