

Lesson One

Use God's Gifts

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

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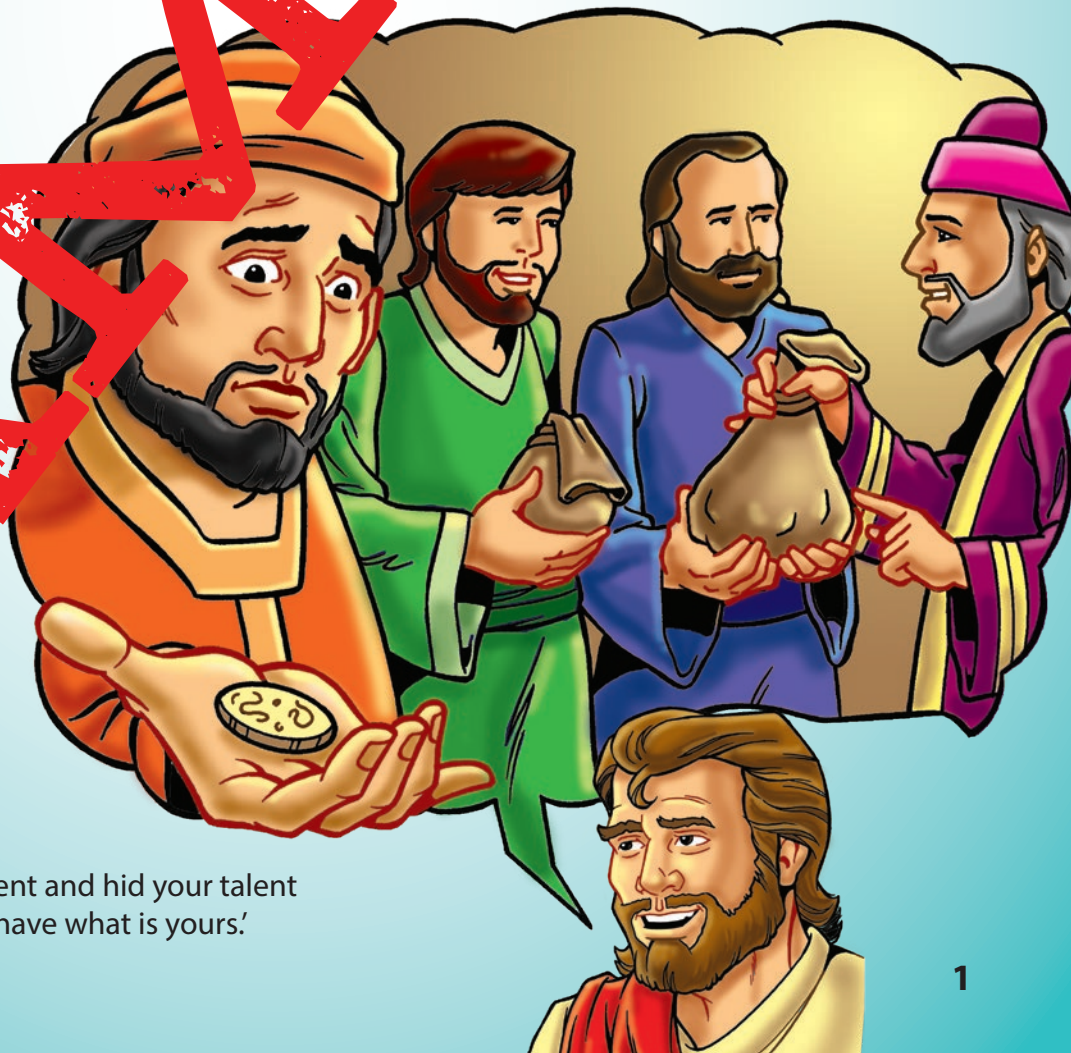
¹⁴ "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. ¹⁵ And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. ¹⁶ Then he who had received 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 know you are 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 know 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 bank, so that at my coming I would have received back with interest.' ²⁸ So 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."



SADDLE UP FOR HIS SERVICE

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

An Inventory of My Gifts

Possessions

Abilities

For _____ to whom much is
_____ from him _____ will be
_____ (Luke 12:48).

2

A Higher Purpose

God wants us to discover a higher purpose in becoming what He wants us to be. In each box, cross out the letters which appear more than once. Write each remaining letter in the space below.

I G X M
E M G F
F S W S
X I E M

E Q Z T
D H Q L
L Z E D
H T L A

D G F A
E T Y W
W Y D F
D A E G

C M
R H U
U R O H
J M O

O L N B
V S P L
I N I V
L O P B

V U N O
K P R P
B O K N
U V U

I M
L J A
D I M J
J A S T

Unscramble these letters to discover what God wants you to be.

God wants each of us to be a good

**“EVERY GOOD GIFT
AND EVERY
PERFECT
GIFT IS
FROM ABOVE,
AND COMES DOWN FROM
THE FATHER OF LIGHTS,
WITH WHOM THERE IS NO
VARIATION OR SHADOW
OF TURNING,” JAMES 1:17**

