

KIDS ACTIVITIES

Sunday 15th November

"Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant"



READ

"The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was going to another place for a visit. Before he left, he talked with his servants. The man told them to take care of his things while he was gone. He decided how much each servant would be able to care for. He gave one servant five bags of money. He gave another servant two bags of money. And he gave a third servant one bag of money. Then the man left. The servant who got five bags went quickly to invest the money. The five bags of money earned five more. It was the same with the servant who had two bags of money. He invested the money and earned two more. But the servant who got one bag of money went out and dug a hole in the ground. Then he hid his master's money in the hole. "After a long time the master came home. He asked the servants what they did with his money. The servant who got five bags of money brought five more bags to the master. The servant said, 'Master, you trusted me to care for five bags of money. So I used your five bags to earn five more.' The master answered, 'You did well. You are a good servant who can be trusted. You did well with small things. So I will let you care for much greater things. Come and share my happiness with me.' "Then the servant who got two bags of money came to the master. The servant said, 'Master, you gave me two bags of money to care for. So I used your two bags to earn two more.' The master answered, 'You did well. You are a good servant who can be trusted. You did well with small things. So I will let you care for much greater things. Come and share my happiness with me.' "Then the servant who got one bag of money came to the master. The servant said, 'Master, I knew that you were a hard man. You harvest things you did not plant. You gather crops where you did not sow any seed. So I was afraid. I went and hid your money in the ground. Here is the bag of money you gave me.' The master answered, 'You are a bad and lazy servant! You say you knew that I harvest things I did not plant, and that I gather crops where I did not sow any seed? So you should have put my money in the bank. Then, when I came home, I would get my money back with interest.' "So the master told his other servants, 'Take the bag of money from that servant and give it to the servant who has ten bags of money. Everyone who uses what he has will get more. He will have much more than he needs. But the one who does not use what he has will have everything taken away from him.' Then the master said, 'Throw that useless servant outside, into the darkness! There people will cry and grind their teeth with pain.'



Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus talked about talents once when He was teaching the disciples; but in this case, the word talent had more than one meaning. Back when Jesus was on earth, a talent was also what they called a very large amount of money. I mean VERY large! Jesus told a parable about a master and three of his servants. The master had to go away on a long journey, so he brought in his servants and gave each of them some money to be in charge of. This way they could continue to run the business and make money while he was gone. This was something new for these servants, to be trusted to take care of something so huge! They didn't go to school; they didn't have fancy homes or a huge farm. These were simply servants, but the master knew they could be more, and he trusted them with his talents.

It's pretty amazing how Jesus used talents in this parable. Because the master gave the servants talents in the form of money, but God gives us talents in the form of abilities. He made some people to be amazing singers, so they could worship and lead others in that same worship. And He made some people good listeners so they could listen to the needs and struggles of others and help them. And He made some people strong and handy, so they could lend a helping hand to those that needed it, just like Jesus did. God gave all of us talents, but they aren't all the same. Each one of us has different talents and different ways to use them. And even though they are different, they aren't better or worse than each other. God just wants to see us use them instead of hiding them. That's why He gave them to us! He wants us to use those talents to bring more people to him and to grow His kingdom. Maybe you could try to find a way to use one of your talents this week. It can be as simple as reading someone else a story or helping them pick up something they dropped. It doesn't have to be big, it just has to be for God.



Pray

Dear God

Thank you for the talents and skills you have given us.
Please help us to use these talents to help and support
others and grow your kingdom.

Amen

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



The Ten Talents

Work through the maze to find how much each servant had to give back to their master when he returned from his journey. Write down the total talents for each servant.

Jesus said that the Kingdom of Heaven was like a great master who called his most trusted servants to him before he went on a journey. He told them that he'd be away for sometime and that he would be leaving his finances in their capable hands. He divided up his wealth and gave to each of them a different amount - depending on their skills and abilities.

To one servant he gave 5 talents worth of wealth. To the second he gave 2 talents and to the third he gave a single talent.

Each of the servants were charged with the responsibility to care for the wealth to the best of their ability. Two of the servants traded with their talents and were able to double the original amount by the time the master returned. The other servant took his talent and buried it in the ground. The master returned those that had doubled their talents pleased him and he rewarded them. The one that had done nothing with the talent had his taken from him and given to the one that had been given the 5 talents.

The maze is a large circular structure with three distinct paths leading from the top to the bottom. At the top, three boxes labeled 'Talents' indicate the starting points. The paths are filled with various illustrations: bags of money labeled 'Talent', a shovel digging in the ground, and a pile of coins. The paths lead to three different outcomes at the bottom: a pile of 5 bags of money, a pile of 2 bags of money, and a pile of 1 bag of money. The maze is designed to be solved by tracing the paths from the starting points to the ending points.