Sunday Reading

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 25:14–30: The Parable of the Talents

Jesus told his disciples this parable: “A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master’s money. After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.’ Then the
one who had received two talents also came forward and said, ‘Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.’ Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, ‘Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.’ His master said to him in reply, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.”
*USCCB note: The talent was a unit of coinage of high but varying value depending on its metal (gold, silver, copper) and its place of origin.

Focus Questions

1. How many talents did the man give to each of his servants?
2. What did each servant do with the talents he was given?
3. What did the master say to the first two servants?
4. What did the master call the third servant? What did he do with him?
Living a Life of Stewardship

Directions: Practicing stewardship means sharing the gifts, talents, and abilities we have out of love for God and our neighbor. Answer the following questions.

What are three gifts or abilities you possess?

1. _______________________________________________________
2. _______________________________________________________
3. _______________________________________________________

List three ways you can share your abilities with others.

1. _______________________________________________________
2. _______________________________________________________
3. _______________________________________________________
Do you think you might have gifts you do not know about yet? What can you do to discover those gifts?

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

What do you think will happen to your gifts if you do not use them?

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________
Sharing Your Gifts and Talents

Directions: In the box below, draw a picture of yourself sharing one of your special gifts or talents!