



Sermon Discussion Guide¹

Matthew 25:14-30 | Kevin DeYoung

“Faithful Servants, Worthless Servants” Sunday Morning, April 13th, 2025

Big Idea: The parable of the talents is both a warning and an invitation: God is not impossible to please.

1. What is the lesson from The Parable of the Ten Virgins, and how does it relate to the Parable of the Talents?
2. “One of the marks of Christian maturity is that we learn to root for each other.” That is, genuine delight in one another’s talents. Why is this so hard for us? How is this parable an antidote to jealousy?
3. God gave each of them the exact same commendation: “Well done...” God is not concerned with how much but how faithful.
 - a. What opportunities has God entrusted to you in the present season of life?
 - b. “Even in our final years of life, we still have the master’s talents.” What do you think stewardship looks like in the final years of life?
4. The purpose of our opportunities is not to “maximize our own comfort.” Reflect on your own heart. How does an inordinate love of comfort manifest itself in your life?
5. Look at verse 16. What do the words “at once” reveal about the 5-talenter’s affections?
6. When was the last time you got a solid “well done” from somebody who really means a lot to you? How did that encourage you?
7. Why did the last servant get cast out into darkness? He did not know what God was really like. How does this parable confront our sin?

Three lessons:

- First lesson: Like the master, God entrusts to us a portion of his resources and expects a return on his investment.
- Second lesson: Like the good servants, if we are faithful with what we have been given, we will be rewarded with great responsibilities and with great joy.
- Third lesson: Like the wicked servant, if we are lazy stewards, we will be spiritually useless and severely punished.

¹ Pick out some questions that you think would be helpful for your group. SDGs are arranged by the Small Groups Ministry to aid group discussion. They are available every week on the [small groups page](#) of the church website for sermons in the current morning series. Feel free to pivot to next Sunday’s sermon text. Read next text aloud as a group, pointing out observations.