

## **The Moral of the Story: Talents and Minas**

### **March 30-31 2019**

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **The Moral of the Story**
- What is a parable? Why did Jesus talk in parables?
  - o Explain spiritual things by using common experiences.
  - o Seekers vs Stiff Necked. Be a seeker! God wants you to find Him!!
- **This Week: Talents and Minas**
- Two parables that are very similar and told in similar contexts.
  - o Last week: What do you think the younger son did when he went home? He got to work!!
    - If he refused that would be crazy. Same for all of us!
- Context of Talents: End Times, The Day and Hour Unknown so be ready!
  - o What if the day and hour was known? Would your daily life change?
- Talents: **Matthew 25:14-30**
  - o You have been entrusted with something, your life and your abilities.
    - We aren't all given the same. But we can all be faithful with what we have.
    - 5 talent guy and 2 talent guy get the same response!
    - Even the 1 talent guy just needed to put the money on deposit. Not hard or unreasonable!
  - o The Master was gone a LONG time...
  - o Your experience of serving God will be colored by your presuppositions about God. The 1 talent guy had a bad view of God.
    - How do you see God? Good? Distant? Unfair? Mean? Loving?
    - Self-fulfilling: Caleb and Joshua vs the 10. Who was right? Both!!
  - o Does burying your talent sound like a good idea?
    - Why do people bury their talent? Too busy, see Jesus as weak, don't think it matters anyway. Other reasons?
    - Why is Jesus so harsh? Because you are here on the planet to help!! If you don't do your part it actually messes up God's plan!
      - You are the light of the world!
      - Vision Statement
- Minas: **Luke 19:11-27** Like Talents but harsher.
  - o Jesus is Lord if you like it or not. Get to know him and you'll like him!!
    - The great tragedy of a misrepresented Jesus. Heresy of false religion.
  - o The delegation is added vs Talents. Wow that's harsh. Jesus is kind but not weak.
    - There is a line not to cross. Putting your Mina on deposit is not hard.
- Conclusion:
  - o 1) Know that we have work that we are expected to do in this life.
  - o 2) God is serious, but we can be safe in His love. His expectations are not unreasonable.
  - o 3) View God right **Hebrews 11:6** and put your talents to work!!
- God loves everyone, but I believe He is especially fond of two groups: good and faithful servants and people who were far from God but who are found!
- No reason you can't be in one of those groups before you leave! **Deut 30:19-20**
- Pray for each other before you finish up!