

ALL CHRISTIANS' FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

Study to show "The Way of True life,"

Bible Study Outline

TOPIC: Parable of the Talents

TEXT: *Matthew 25:14-30*

Instructions: *Instructions: - Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses to the discussion questions and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: Men are not born equal—or women either. We live in an imperfect world. And sometimes the inequalities can seem unfair. Our sense of injustice arises from two related sources. First, as children we may fear that our parents love our brothers and sisters more than us. Then we enter a fiercely competitive world where people admire the successful. We may feel it unfair that we have fewer gifts or opportunities than those who wind up more famous or rich than us. This parable gives us a glimpse of the issues of inequality and fairness in God's kingdom.

1. If someone loaned you a million dollars and you had to pay it back in ten years, what would you do with that money?
2. In the text that we read; a talent was not a personal ability but a measure of money equal to thousands of dollars. How and why does the master entrust his money to these servants (vs. 14-15)?
3. If you had been the third servant, how would you have felt; receiving only one talent when the others had more? How do you think the master decided how many talents each servant received?
4. How might our envy or resentment of other Christians hinder faithful execution of our responsibilities?
5. As you look at the statements of the three servants (vs. 20, 22, 24, 25), what can you assume about their relationships with their master. How might their relationships have affected their actions in verse 18?
6. Think of people you have done jobs for. Did your relationship with them have any bearing on your attitude toward the job?
8. How is the master like God and unlike God? Discuss.

9. How does our relationship with God affect our attitudes toward what we do in His Vineyard?

10. Do you think of yourself and/or your church as a five-talent person, a two-talent person or a one-talent person? Explain your thoughts.

11. Let every participant discuss how he/she can faithfully handle the responsibilities God has given them.