

5 Day Devotional for the week of December 15, 2025

This five day devotional will be taking a deeper dive into the sermon from this weekend. Together, we will explore what it means to live in between Advents, how to actively prepare our hearts for the return of the King, and discover how to engage in the Lord's kingdom with the gifts and resources He has entrusted to us.

Day 1

Scripture: Luke 19:13 So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas.^[a] 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'

The sermon introduced the theme of living in between two significant events: the first and second coming of Jesus. As we anticipate His return, we are called to actively engage in the work of His kingdom, utilizing the gifts, talents, and opportunities He has entrusted us with. The parable of the Minas, as referenced in the sermon, reminds us that waiting is not passive but a time of active preparation and stewardship.

Engaging in the kingdom means that each of us has been given something of value from God. We are called to use these resources, whether they be our time, talents, or treasures, in fruitful ways. The nobleman in the parable symbolized our King, Jesus, who is now away but will return. Until then, we must engage in His business, making the most of what He has given us to grow His kingdom here on earth.

- How can you ensure that you are actively engaging in God's business in your daily life?
- What are some talents or resources that God has entrusted to you, and how can you use them for His glory?
- How does waiting for Jesus' return shape your current life choices?
- Ask God to show you specific ways you can engage in His work while you wait.
- Pray for wisdom in how to steward the resources and talents He has given you.

Day 2

*Scripture: Luke 19:11-15 **The Parable of the Ten Minas***

¹¹ While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. ¹² He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. ¹³ So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas.^[a] 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.' ¹⁴ "But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.' ¹⁵ "He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.

As we delve deeper into the parable, we understand that the return of the king, much like the nobleman in Jesus' story, is certain, and it requires a preparation that goes beyond merely waiting. Living in anticipation of Jesus' second coming means cultivating a readiness fueled by faith and active engagement. It's about carrying out the Great Commission, living holy lives, and drawing others into His kingdom.

Christ's story illuminates the responsibility left in our hands as faithful servants. Our time, spiritual gifts, and resources are not meant to be hidden away out of fear or self-preservation. Instead, they are for the advancement of His kingdom. Tackling this mandate calls for intentional action, courage, and reliance on the Holy Spirit to guide our ventures in His service.

- What areas of your life have you been neglecting to engage actively with the resources God has given you?
- Reflect on the impact your engagement in God's work could have on others around you.
- How does the certainty of Jesus' return motivate you to invest in His kingdom's work today?
- Pray for courage and boldness to step out in faith in using your resources for God's glory.
- Seek God's guidance on how to be an influence and a light in your daily surroundings.

Day 3

Scripture: Luke 19:16-19 "The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.'

¹⁷ "'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.' ¹⁸ "The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.' ¹⁹ "His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.'

In the parable, the faithful servants who actively engaged and multiplied the Minas they were given received rewards far greater than they could have imagined. This principle of faithfulness leading to greater responsibility and blessing is a recurring theme throughout the Bible. It challenges us to rethink how we measure success in the eyes of the Lord versus the world's standards.

God calls us to be faithful in small things, knowing that He is the one who multiplies our efforts. His rewards are not just material or earthly, but they are deeply rooted in eternal significance. By trusting God with our resources, we affirm that true reward comes from serving His kingdom and awaiting His commendation rather than worldly acknowledgment.

- Are there "small things" in your life right now where God is calling you to be faithful?
- How might God be preparing you for greater responsibilities as you are faithful now?
- What does being faithful in your current season look like practically?
- Ask God for the wisdom to see and seize small opportunities for faithfulness today.
- Reflect on God's promises of reward and ask for His help to trust in them fully.

Day 4

Scripture: Luke 19:20-24 "Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. ²¹ I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.' ²² "His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? ²³ Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?' ²⁴ "Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.'

The account of the unfaithful servant offers a stark warning against fear and misunderstanding the character of God. This servant, paralyzed by fear, fails to see the grace and opportunity given by the master. It serves as a cautionary tale against allowing fear to dictate our actions, highlighting the importance of relating rightly to God and understanding His true nature.

Misinterpreting God's character can lead to spiritual paralysis, where action is replaced by complacency or fear of failure. The call to us is to know God deeply and accurately, and this knowledge transforms our fear into faith. It empowers us to act with boldness, knowing that God is gracious, merciful, and empowers us to succeed in His purpose.

- Reflect on areas of your spiritual life where fear might be hindering your growth.

- How can understanding God's true character change your approach to daily challenges?
- Consider how a deepened relationship with God can empower you to act with boldness.
- Pray for God to reveal Himself more clearly to you, dispelling any distorted views you may hold.
- Seek to trust God more deeply, asking Him to replace your fears with faith.

Day 5

Scripture: Luke 19:25-26 “‘Sir,’ they said, ‘he already has ten!’”²⁶ “He replied, ‘I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

The culmination of Jesus' parable admonishes that those who have, more will be given, and from those who do not have, even what they have will be taken away. It emphasizes the need for vigilance and action in our spiritual walk. As stewards of God's gifts, passivity is not an option; we are called to multiply His blessings actively.

This day's reflection is a powerful reminder that fruitful labor in the kingdom is both a privilege and a responsibility. We are reminded that God's grace is sufficient, and He equips those who serve obediently. As we anticipate His return, let's strive to be found faithful, with our hands ready, our minds sharp, and our hearts full of expectancy.

- What does spiritual vigilance look like in your daily life?
- Reflect on how you can better steward the blessings God has given you.
- In what ways can you encourage others to engage actively in their faith journey?
- Pray for insight and creativity in multiplying God's blessings in your life.
- Petition God for an expectant heart, ready to welcome His return with joy and commitment.