

## Entrusted

Matthew 25:14-30

**Opener:** What is a thought or truth you are mulling over from Jesus' parable about the 3 servants and the talents entrusted to them by their master?

### Read Matthew 25:14-30

1. Who do the characters in the story represent? What does the journey taken by the master represent?
2. The wealth entrusted to the servants is summarized in the Sunday message as Grace, Gospel, and Gifts (the grace of Jesus accomplished through his death, the powerful message of the gospel, and the gifts of resources one has.) Discuss how each one is a form of Jesus' wealth entrusted to you.
3. How would you describe the expectations that the master has for his servants while he is on his journey?
4. What quantifies as being a "good and faithful servant" based on what you see in this parable? How do you know if you have generated enough return to be "good and faithful" with what has been entrusted to you?
5. The good news of Jesus is that we don't have to earn our salvation, but it is gifted to us. How is what Jesus is teaching different than working for your salvation?
6. Why was burying the money entrusted to him by his master both wicked and lazy?
7. What reward do the good and faithful servants receive upon their master's return?
8. What outcome befalls the third servant who gives back to the master the exact amount entrusted to him to manage? What are your thoughts about what happens to him?
9. What are we to learn from this parable? How do you feel either encouraged or challenged by it?

**Closing:** What is the Holy Spirit leading you to do in response to what you have considered today in God's Word?