

Leaders Resource for the Parable of the Talents – Matthew 25 v 14-29

Key points to note:

- Remember that a Parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning
- In life we are all given responsibilities based on our abilities, skills and capacity to cope. We should always strive to keep going until the job is completed
- In the parable we see 2 servants who kept working until their Master returned. It is clear that they loved him and wanted to do their best for him.
- The first two servants didn't want to lose what they had been entrusted with, they could say 'use it or lose it!'
- The opposite of LOVE is FEAR, the third servant did nothing because of fear.
- Christ values our faithful obedience, look again what was said to the first 2 servants 'well done good and faithful servant' it made no difference that they had been entrusted with different talents, they had been faithful with what they had been given and that was all that was asked of them.
- This story teaches us about how God wants us to live, act and behave as a Christian.
- God gives us opportunities to use the gifts that He has given us
- All talents/gifts belong to God and they are His to give and share
- Think of the talents/gifts that God has given us, including : The Bible, Forgiveness of Sins, The Holy Spirit, wisdom, knowledge, healing etc
- Society today encourages us to always to compare ourselves to others – social media influencers encourage aspirational living through owning experiences and objects. God says that we are each unique and special, there are never two people the same, even twins.
- See the resources on the work programmes

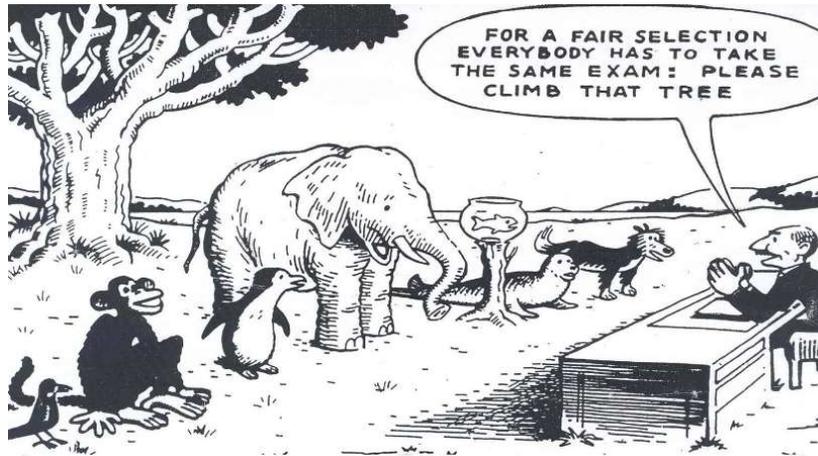
Three ways to maximise your gifts:

1. **Learn from every experience – Phil 3 v 12-13**
2. **Humbly listen to correction – 1 Peter 5 v 5**
3. **Never stop learning – Prov 23 v 22**

So the symbolism in the parable

Parable		Today
Wealthy man	represents	Son of God
Servants	represents	Followers of Christ, we all have been given different gifts and abilities
Trading and making their talents grow	represents	Faithful use of the spiritual gifts and opportunities that God has given us
Far away place	represents	Heaven
Bags of Talents	represents	Gifts that God has given us – remember they are never the finished article, they are to be developed and used so that they can grow.

Leaders Resource for the Parable of the Talents – Matthew 25 v 14-29



Resources referred to in the response booklets

Story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNH4IjGWI-8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47uTEZTaPck>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dt-5NNQN2YE>

Songs

Shine from the inside out (words and actions)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDjYK_XQJFc

We all have gifts to share

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8vfPPfQ0bo>