

## Lesson Thirteen

# The Talents

**Scripture Reference:** Matthew 25:14-30

**Memory Verse:** "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant ... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." (Matthew 25:21)

"Ruth will you tell us the parable of the talents and how it applies to your life?"

"A man was going to another country so he called his servants and delivered five talents (a large sum of money) to one, two talents to another and one talent to a third. While he was gone the man with five talents traded and made five more. The one with two gained two more. But the one talent servant dug a hole and hid the talent in the ground. After a long time the lord of the servants came and had them give an account of the money. The first two were rewarded. Since they were faithful over few things he would set them over many."



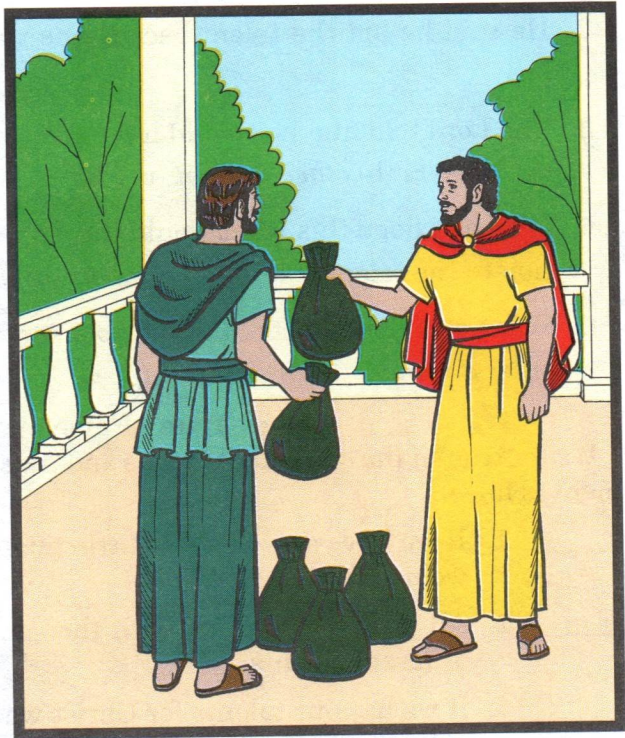
*"I'm taking no chances."*

"The servant with one talent said his master was a hard man and he was afraid and hid the talent but would now return it to him. The master told him he should have at least given the money to the bankers and he would have its interest. Then the talent was taken from him and the unprofitable servant was cast into outer darkness."

"We learn from this that God has given us gifts, some more than others. No matter how small our abilities or opportunities we must use them for Christ. One day He will return and we will give an account of our lives."

"Very good. We notice also that if we use our "talents" they will grow but if we "bury" them we will lose what we have. That seems to be a law

of nature — “use me or lose me.” If we stop using an arm it will become weak or useless. Every normal person has some ability. Some have “talents” in things like art, music, mechanics, numbers, memory, physical strength or beauty, and all of us have been given gifts or opportunities. Some have Christian parents and friends, a chance to read the Bible, we live here instead of Russia, China, or some other unfortunate place.



***“We have different gifts.”***

“We will be much happier if we use our abilities and opportunities for Christ than if we are selfish or just try to make money. The same, or a similar, lesson was taught in the parable of the pounds in Luke 19:11-27.

**Questions To Answer**

Fill in the blanks.

In the parable as given by Matthew a man delivered to his servants \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ talents; to each according to his several \_\_\_\_\_. The first servant \_\_\_\_\_ and made \_\_\_\_\_ more talents. The one with the least amount took his and hid it in the \_\_\_\_\_. To the first two the lord of these servants said, Well done, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ servant. He also said enter into the \_\_\_\_\_ of thy lord.

**Underline The Best Answer**

1. The one talent man said his lord was what kind of man? (a) *bad* (b) *hard* (c) *soft*.

2. He said he hid the talent because he was (a) *afraid* (b) *angry* (c) *busy*.
3. The Lord told him he should have given the money to what group? (a) *bankers* (b) *other servant* (c) *Pharisees*.
4. If he had done this what would the servant have received in addition to the talent? (a) *another talent* (b) *interest* (c) *praise*.
5. What was done to the unprofitable servant? He was (a) *cast into outer darkness* (b) *fired* (c) *whipped*.

### True - False

Write "true" if the statement is true and "false" if any part of the statement is false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. If we have only one or a little talent it is not important how we use it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. All people are equal, with the same amount of talents but different talents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. If we use our talents for Christ we will "use them up" so we will have little left but He will reward us.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. If we stop using a talent or an arm it will become weaker or less useful.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Some normal people have no ability.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. In one parable Jesus told of a man receiving ten pounds and through trading he gained ten more.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Another man with ten pounds gained five pounds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The parable teaches us we should try to make money if we expect to be saved.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Some people have more opportunities to know about Christ than others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Jesus said there will be some joy for those cast into outer darkness.

### Questions To Discuss

1. What are some talents you and your friends have?
2. How may they be used for Christ?
3. What effect does use or lack of use have on talents?
4. Is God limited by the size of our talents or by their use?
5. Why do some people have more talents than others?

### Who Was The Most?

We often think of certain people in the Bible as having a certain gift or talent or characteristic more than others. By the side of each of the following write the name of the person in the Bible that fits best. Unless your teacher gives you other directions, see how many you can get without looking up the scriptures. Then look up the rest.

1. Beauty \_\_\_\_\_ Esther 2:7
2. Faith \_\_\_\_\_ Galatians 3:9; Romans 4:1, 11, 16
3. Loyalty \_\_\_\_\_ I Samuel 19-20
4. Meekness \_\_\_\_\_ Numbers 12:3
5. Patience \_\_\_\_\_ James 5:11
6. Physical strength \_\_\_\_\_ Judges 16:6
7. Self-control \_\_\_\_\_ Daniel 1:8
8. Wisdom \_\_\_\_\_ I Kings 3:10-12

### Who Used What?

God has used many things in His service. See if you can tell who used the following in God's service. If you don't know, look it up. Sometimes we do not know the name of the person. If you get very many of these you are doing well.

1. A field \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 4:36, 37
2. Five loaves and two fish \_\_\_\_\_ John 6:3-13
3. Meal and oil \_\_\_\_\_ I Kings 17:8-16
4. Needle (made clothing) \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 9:36-42
5. Precious ointment \_\_\_\_\_ John 12:1-8
6. Rod \_\_\_\_\_ Exodus 4:1-17
7. Sling \_\_\_\_\_ I Samuel 17
8. 300 trumpets, pitchers, and torches \_\_\_\_\_  
Judges 7:16-22
9. Two mites \_\_\_\_\_ Mark 12:41-44

**Matthew 6:19-20**

(Tune: "Higher Ground")

Treasures on earth will pass away,  
For thieves will come, rust will decay.  
Treasures in heaven will ever be,  
Take up thy cross and follow Me.

*Chorus:*

I'll take my cross and follow Thee,  
Treasures in heaven then I'll see.  
No thieves will come, no rust there'll be,  
I'll take my cross and follow Thee.

— By Lora Laycook  
Used with permission

**Bearing Fruit For Jesus**

(Tune: "Bringing In The Sheaves")

Bearing fruit for Jesus, bearing fruit for Jesus,  
Bearing fruit for Jesus, every night and day.  
Bearing fruit for Jesus, bearing fruit for Jesus,  
This is what He taught us and we must obey.

Oh, we must bear fruit, oh, we must bear fruit.  
This is what God wants, and so we must bear fruit.  
Oh, we must bear fruit, oh, we must bear fruit.  
This is what God wants, and so we must bear fruit.

## **The Sower**

*(Tune: "The Bear Went Over The Mountain")*

A sower went forth to sow,  
A sower went forth to sow,  
A sower went forth to sow,  
His seed was the word of God.

And, as the sower sowed,  
And, as the sower sowed,  
The seed, it fell on hard ground,  
The seed, it fell on rocky ground,  
The seed, it fell on thorny ground,  
It fell on good ground, too.

## Student Information Sheet

I love \_\_\_\_\_ .

I hate \_\_\_\_\_ .

My favorite place to go is \_\_\_\_\_ .

My favorite thing to do is \_\_\_\_\_ .

My best friend is \_\_\_\_\_ .

My favorite color is \_\_\_\_\_ .

My favorite TV show is \_\_\_\_\_ .

My hero is \_\_\_\_\_ .

The person I would most like to meet from history is

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .

Someday I want to be a \_\_\_\_\_ .

In 20 years I hope that \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .

Something few people know about me is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .