

**Matthew 25:14-30**

***Parable of the Talents***

May 24, 2020 – Rev. Rick Lyon

**Intro** - Over the past ten weeks there's been a 500% increase of people working from home.

**v. 14** – “For *the kingdom of heaven* is like a man traveling to a far country, *who* called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.

**v. 15** - And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one.

*The talents in this parable represent the resources God gives to His servants.*

**J. C. Ryle:** "Anything whereby we may glorify God is a talent. Our gifts, our influence, our money, our knowledge, our health, our strength, our time, our intellect...all these are our talents."

**v. 15** - To one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability

**In Luke 12, Jesus said:** "To whom much is given, *much will be required.*"

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**Eph. 4:16** - From Him the whole body (all of us), joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its share.

**God controls the resources He gives you. You control what you do with them.**

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**Romans 14:10-12** - We will all stand before the judgment seat of Christ... each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**Value isn't determined by what you have, but by what you do with what you**

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**Reason #1 - He had a wrong view of his master.**

**1 Cor. 4:1-2** - This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Now it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

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**Reason #2 - He was scared.**

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**Reason #3 - He was lazy.**

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v. 26 - “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and *lazy* servant, you knew that I reap where I haven't sown, and gather where I haven't scattered seed.

v. 27 - You ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would've received back my own with interest.

v. 28 - So take the talent from him, and give *it* to him who has ten talents. ‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he'll have abundance; but from him who doesn't have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

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**1. Be Bold.**

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**2. Be Faithful.**

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**3. Don't compare yourself to others**

**Romans 14** - Who are you to judge someone else's servant? Their own master will judge them.

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**4. Do your part.**

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**5. Be Ready**

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