

Matthew 25: 14-30

The Parable of the Talents

<sup>14</sup>“For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants<sup>[a]</sup> and entrusted to them his property. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents,<sup>[b]</sup> to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup>So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant.<sup>[c]</sup> You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Intro

Have you ever been given a gift that you were expected to use?

Perhaps it was a bike or scooter?

Or a musical instrument?

Or paints or crafts?

How would the person who gave you the gift feel if you left their gift in the corner and never used it?

They would feel sad and disappointed I imagine!

Today in the parable Jesus tells, it is about the gift He expects us to use.

## Story

Jesus is telling another parable – an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.

He tells the story of a man who gave his three servants a gift before he went away on a long journey.

To one man he gave 5 talents, to another 2 talents and to the final man 1 talent.

The first man took his 5 talents and used them to get 5 more- so he had 10 talents.

The second man took his 2 talents and used them to gain 2 more – so he had 4 talents.

But the last man didn't use his talent, he buried it in the ground so he still had 1 talent.

The man came back from his long journey and spoke to the three men.

Which men do you think he was happy with?

The two who had used their gift well and gained more.

He was cross and disappointed with the man who had simply buried his talent.

What does this story mean for us?

We have been learning about Jesus coming back and how we need to ready for Him.

Jesus has given us a gift, the gift of knowing and loving Him and having our sins forgiven.

He expects us to use that gift.

How do you think he expects us to use it?

To help it grow by obeying His commands, going and taking part in church life, helping those around us and learning more about Him.

If Jesus were to come now, he would want to find us using our gift, in growing more like Him and serving Him.

He would be cross and disappointed if he found us living a life opposite to how he told us to live and disobeying His commands.

Let's pray to ask God to help us today.

## Prayer

Father God,

We thank you for the gift of salvation we can have through your Son, Jesus Christ.

We ask that you would help us to use this gift that you have given us.

Please help us to obey you, follow you, love and serve you each day.

Forgive us for the times when we do not do this.

In Jesus name we pray,

Amen

## Activities

1. Wordsearch
2. Maze
3. Colouring Sheet

# The Parable of the Talents

But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Matthew 25:18

Based on Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)



W O R T H L E S S T R E S N R  
W I C K E D U J R E M N X N U  
K G O S C E M J T S H T Q F A  
T A Z I L H Z S P H A R E Q X  
F I Q S W K A F P I P U F I L  
A N M B E M A H E P P S Q F A  
I E O J E R A B I L I T Y J Z  
T D N I P C V U Y K N E S Q Y  
H R E P I L S A Y P E D N E T  
F X Y D N N H N N R S W N N L  
U Q C J G W A Y Q T S R E O X  
L Z G Z G N R C J N U L Q M D  
R Z D M E F E N E O A T W S K  
P R O P E R T Y J T W G F X K  
W G L E U E H I K B G N R Y U

JOURNEY  
SERVANT  
ABILITY  
GAINED

WORTHLESS  
PROPERTY  
WICKED  
HAPPINESS

TALENT  
SHARE  
FAITHFUL  
LAZY

MASTER  
MONEY  
WEEPING  
ENTRUSTED

# The Ten Talents

Work through the maze to find how much each servant had to give back to their master when he returned from his journey. Write down the total talents for each servant.

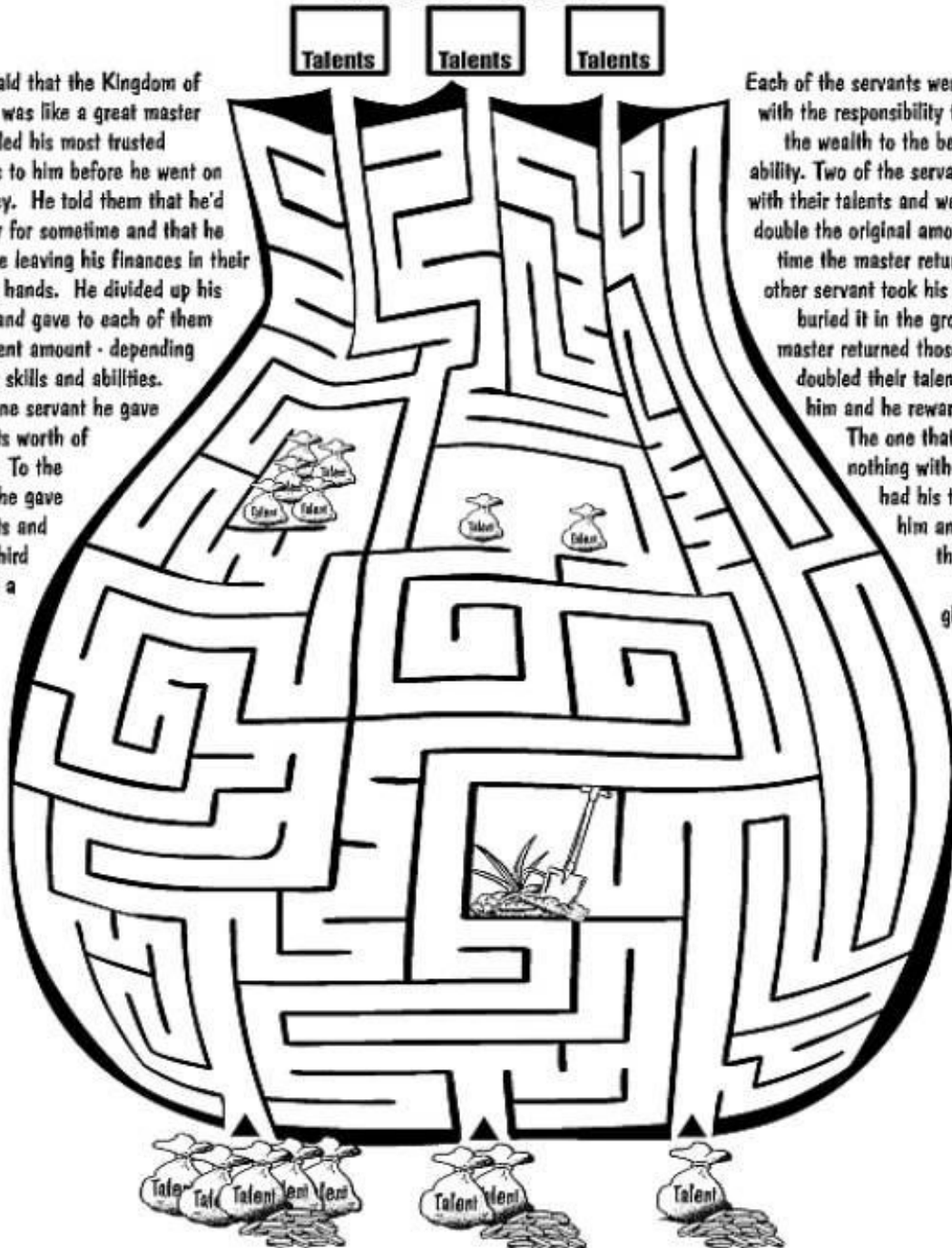
**Matthew 25:14-30**

Jesus said that the Kingdom of Heaven was like a great master who called his most trusted servants to him before he went on a journey. He told them that he'd be away for sometime and that he would be leaving his finances in their capable hands. He divided up his wealth and gave to each of them a different amount - depending on their skills and abilities.

To one servant he gave 5 talents worth of wealth. To the second he gave 2 talents and to the third he gave a single talent.

Each of the servants were charged with the responsibility to care for the wealth to the best of their ability. Two of the servants traded with their talents and were able to double the original amount by the time the master returned. The other servant took his talent and buried it in the ground. The master returned those that had doubled their talents pleased him and he rewarded them.

The one that had done nothing with the talent had his taken from him and given to the one that had been given the 5 talents.





‘For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.’

Matthew 25: 29