

SPARK SUNDAY SCHOOL

ACTIVATE FAITH

UPPER ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION



Jesus Teaches: The Parable of the Talents

Lesson Focus: Use Your Gifts & Talents

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

Spark Story Bible Pg. 316

GATHER

Check In with your High & Low for today/this week.

Get in the Zone: Practice leaps of faith. Mark how far you can leap, and keep practicing to leap further. Remember: **Giving our lives to God takes some trust and some oomph!**

Words to Help Us Today:

Parable: Our Bible story is called Parable of the Talents. A parable is a story that Jesus told to teach us something about God. I wonder what Jesus will teach us in this parable?

Talent: When we talk about talents we're talking about things that we're good at and things that make us unique. In Jesus' time the word talent was a measurement of money.

Take a look at the second page of the leaflet to find out how much five talents were worth.

Slave: Slavery is when one person claims to own another person. In North America it's been against the law for a long time, but in Jesus' day it was a common practice. Though slavery was different in Jesus' day, it's important to remember that Jesus is telling a story with slaves in it, but Jesus is not saying that slavery is okay. Jesus teaches us that all people are equal, that no one is a slave, and that all of us are God's children and we are loved by God No matter what.

STORY

Dear Jesus, Sometimes we feel that we have nothing. But you have entrusted us with everything. Amen.

Look up **Matthew 25:14-30** in the **NRSV** and listen along on our website. Or turn to **page 316** in the **Spark Story Bible**.

- What did the man tell the servants before he went on a trip?
- Why did one of the servants bury the money?
- **Jesus teaches us that God wants us to use our talents.** Which of your talents can you use to share God's love?

RESPOND

Hidden Talents: Turn to the back page of your leaflets. Jesus said, **"Use your talents."** But sometimes our talents are **hiding**. We don't know what our talents are. **God can see our talents.** God will help us use our talents. Look closely at things that are hiding. Can you see the creatures in these pictures? God hides these creatures to protect them from their enemies. Their talents are hiding!

MEMORY VERSE

Look up **Matthew 25:21b** This is our Memory Verse for today.

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

SEND

Responding to God's Word

*These are ways God uses us to come back for others!
Sometimes the best way to come back is to go out!*

To: _____ From: _____ Date: _____

I want to:

- ___ Ask your parents to help you open a savings account.
- ___ Put a dollar in your pocket every morning and look for ways to give it away.
- ___ Write a story about a kid who gets rich by sharing.
- ___ List three ways you share with your church.
- ___ Dig a hole outside.
- ___ Name three things I love to do
- ___ Write out the Memory Verse & doodle around it in your Faith Formation Journal
- ___ Write out the Memory Verse and place it somewhere you will see it often
- ___ Give you a big hug!
- ___ Invite you to worship with you (outside or online) or invite them to Sunday School with you
- ___ Pray for _____
- ___ Say "I'm sorry"
- ___ Read this story again in my Bible ___ My own idea: _____

PRAY

Dear God, sometimes we're afraid. We're afraid that we will lose the things we own. So we huddle down and keep our hopes buried inside us. Please help us to trust you. Show us the families who make a leap of faith to live their lives, trusting that you will provide. Please teach us to not be afraid. Amen.