



THE PARABLE OF THE BAGS OF GOLD

MARCH 22 - 28

SUNDAY: SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 25:14-30

¹⁴ “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²² “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴ “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’



THE PARABLE OF THE BAGS OF GOLD

²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸ ““So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

MONDAY: OBSERVATION

There’s a lot going on in this parable, and sometimes we can’t see the forest for the trees.

At Centerpoint Church, we exist to make Christ known. We say it all the time. Those words are plastered on our walls at each campus, and they are lived out daily by our people in all the places they live, work, and play.

Why? Because this is what God’s desire is for his people.

Consider this parable. What we see in the Parable of the Bags of Gold is this reality – faithful risk-taking and active stewardship of God’s gifts brings praise and reward in God’s kingdom. The act of using what God has given you to make Christ known is the call.

We see in the parable that God gave different gifts – or different amounts – to each person. What we can infer is that God has given each of us gifts, skills, talents, and passions, and God wants us to use those gifts for the sake of the kingdom – to make Christ known.

The point of the parable is that the size of the gift is not what



THE PARABLE OF THE BAGS OF GOLD

matters. Rather, faithful stewardship of what we've been given is what's important. The master in the parable praises those who actively engage and invest their talents and rebukes those who hide their gifts out of fear.

TUESDAY: APPLICATION

Deep down, every person wants to glorify God and enjoy him forever. If we realize that God has indeed given each of us gifts, skills, talents, and passions – and that the Spirit of God is with us when we use them to make Christ known, the kingdom of God will grow exponentially.

In a way, each one of us has a God-given bag of gold. Those who have been given gifts have the responsibility to share those gifts with a watching world. We are called to actively invest our gifts – in discipleship, leadership, service, tithes, and worship – to make Christ known locally, regionally, and globally.

Identify at least one gift you possess here. Write it down:

How will you share that gift with another this week?

WEDNESDAY: PRAYER

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: Thank you for this parable. Thank you for helping us see that faithful risk-taking and active stewardship of your gifts bring honor and glory to you. Help us, O God, to recognize our bags of gold and to be available and generous in sharing them with those around us. Amen



THE PARABLE OF THE BAGS OF GOLD

THURSDAY: OBSERVATION

In this parable, Jesus tells the story of a master who entrusted his property to his servants before he left for a long journey. He gives each servant a different amount of gold to take care of in his absence. To one servant, he gives one bag of gold; to another, two bags; and to the third, five bags. Each servant is entrusted with something of great value. People estimate that in Jesus' time, these bags of gold could have each been worth around twenty years' wages.

Two of the servants take the bags of gold that they have been given and use them to earn more gold for their master, but the servant who is only given one bag of gold hides it in the ground out of fear.

When the master returns, he commends the two servants who used the bags of gold that they had been given to earn more gold for their faithful stewardship of his resources. When the master hears that the other servant had, out of fear, buried his gold in the ground and done nothing else with it, he condemns that servant, takes back the gold that he had given, and gives it to one of the other servants.

FRIDAY: APPLICATION

This parable draws a clear parallel with the lives that we live today. As we interpret this story, it is clear that Jesus is depicting himself as the master who has entrusted things to us, as his servants, to steward while we wait for His return.

Although Jesus didn't give us bags of gold to steward, He has given each of us gifts of great value. We have all been entrusted with time, resources, and talents, and Jesus' desire is that we would be faithful stewards investing what he has given us in things that bring growth to His kingdom and glory to His name.



THE PARABLE OF THE BAGS OF GOLD

When the master in the story returns, he commends the two servants who invested wisely for their faithfulness with what he had given them. Spend a few minutes today thinking about how you are investing the time, talents, and resources that Jesus has entrusted to you. Are you being faithful with what you have been given?

As we await the day when Jesus returns, may we be faithful stewards of both the small and the big things that he has entrusted to us so that when that day comes, we might hear His loving voice say, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

SATURDAY: PRAYER

Lord, remind us today that all that we have is a gift from you. Help us to be faithful stewards of the gifts that you have given, investing them in ways that glorify your name. Free us from the fear that causes us to hide or hoard these gifts, and help us desire, above all else, to hear you say, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” Amen.

