Well Done Good and Faithful Servant KZ Lesson Sun 07 25 20

# Memory Verse: Matthew 25:23 (NKJV)

**23**His lord said to him, ‘Well *done,* good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’

Target Thought: We offer our best to Jesus

# Matthew 25:14-29 (NKJV)

### The Parable of the Talents

**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. **15**And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. **16**Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. **17**And likewise he who *had received* two gained two more also. **18**But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. **19**After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

**20**“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ **21**His lord said to him, ‘Well *done,* good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ **22**He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ **23**His lord said to him, ‘Well *done,* good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’

**24**“Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. **25**And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, *there* you have *what is* yours.’

**26**“But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. **27**So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. **28**So take the talent from him, and give *it* to him who has ten talents.

**29**‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

Jesus told a parable about a master and three of his servants.  The master had to go away on a long journey, so he brought in his servants and gave each of them some money to be in charge of.  This way they could continue to run the business and make money while he was gone.

Jesus has entrusted us, His servants to be about our Father’s business.

So the master asked one of his most talented servants to come forward, and he gave that servant 1 talent.  Now this might not seem like a lot, but just wait.  That 1 talent was worth 20 whole years of work for him!  That’s like $351,936.00, 20 years of wages.

Then he called up a servant with even more talent and gave him 2 talents (2 coins). That was 40 whole years worth of pay!The most talented servant was given 5 talents (5 coins).  That is a full 100 years worth of work!  100!

This was something new for these servants, to be trusted to take care of something so huge!  They didn’t go to school, they didn’t have fancy homes or a huge farm.  These were just basic servants, but the master knew they could be more and he trusted them with his talents.

Jesus isn’t in us making money for Him like this master was, Jesus is interested in us winning souls.

So what do we think they did with these talents?

Why don’t we ask them? (pretend) Let’s start with the last servant.  You were given 5 talents, and the master wanted you to use it to grow his business.  Can you name 5 ways you could have done that?  (Ask the class to help out if they can’t come up with all 5)  (example: buy seeds and plant them, buy cows and make cheese, hire weavers and sell cloth, etc.)

It looks like this servant used those talents in a great way!  By the time the master got back the servant had doubled the money (give 5 extra coins).  DOUBLED!  He now had 10 talents. The master was so impressed, he gave the servant even more talents.  He said “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!” (Matthew 25:21 NIV)

This servant just got invited to celebrate with his master.  A servant would normally be serving his master, not celebrating with him.  That was huge!

Let’s ask the next servant what they did.  You were given 2 talents, and the master wanted you to use them to grow his business.  Can you think of 2 ways you could have done that?  (trade business, loaned money for interest)

It looks like you were able to use those talents and you also doubled them.  You now have 4 talents!  And what do you the master said?  The same thing!  He was just as happy with this servant as he was with the first.  The first servant had more talents in the end, but what really mattered to the master was that the talents he gave them were used wisely.  So now there were 2 servants celebrating with the master.

Now let’s see how the first servant with the 1 talent did, he was so scared he might do something wrong that he decided to do nothing at all.  He took his talent and buried it so no one could find it.

When the master came back he asked the last servant what he had done with the talents.  But when the servant told him he chose to hide his talent out of fear the master became very upset.  The master gave him that talent for a reason, but the servant chose not to use it.  So instead of celebrating with the master and the other servant, he was sent away.

It’s pretty neat how Jesus used talents in this parable.  Because the master gave the servants talents in the form of money, but God gives us talents in the form of abilities. For your third question today I want you to tell me things that you can do to serve Jesus.

He made some people to be amazing singers, so they could worship and lead others in that same worship.  And He made some people good listeners so they could listen to the needs and struggles of others and help them. And He made some people strong and handy, so they could lend a helping hand to those that needed it, just like Jesus did.

God gave all of us talents, but they aren’t all the same.  Each one of us has different talents and different ways to use them.  And even though they are different, they aren’t better or worse than each other.  God just wants to see us use them instead of hiding them.  That’s why He gave them to us!  He wants us to use those talents to bring more people to him and to grow His kingdom.

I want you to try to find a way to use one of your talents this week to grow God’s kingdom.  It can be as simple as reading someone else a story or helping them pick up something they dropped.  It doesn’t have to be big, it just has to be for God.

We are not going to hide or bury our abilities; we are not going to be lazy or afraid. We are going to use everything God has given us including our time to serve Him. We want Jesus to say to us well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord. We certainly don’t want Jesus to be disappointed with us.

Let’s pray: Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus we thank-you for giving us abilities to serve You, help us to use them to further Your Kingdom. In Jesus name we ask. Amen.

1. What has Jesus entrusted us with?
2. What does Jesus want us to our abilities for?
3. Name some things you can do for God’s Kingdom.