

SERMON GUIDE

A COMMUNITY OF PURPOSE

Matthew 25:14-30

Pastor Tim Prince

October 29, 2023

Faith Community Church | fcchudson.com

Conversation Questions

Getting to know me: Share about a good or bad investment that you've made.

Note about the passage: Jesus told many stories to describe the kingdom of heaven. In the Gospel according to Matthew, Jesus has already told the disciples that he is going to leave, but that he will return again someday. In this story, he is teaching about how we are to live while we wait for his return. In the story, the "talents" represent our lives and resources as followers of Jesus - the gifts and "investment" that God has made in us as his people.

Read Matthew 25:14-30

- S** What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything "illuminated" or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** The master entrusts each of the servants with money to invest. Why do you think he does this? What does he expect from them? What do you think he is expecting to learn about his servants from this experience?
- O** What stands out to you about the results from the servants and the master's response?
- O** Why do you think the last servant buried his money? What do you think would have happened if he had invested the money and lost it?
- O** What do you think of the way the Master treats these servants? Is he fair? Lenient? Harsh? Why?
- O** What kind of attitude do you think a good "spiritual investor" needs? What kinds of attitudes make for a poor investor?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** What is your favorite excuse for not giving your life to the work of the Lord? How do you think God is calling you to respond this week? Be specific.
- A** Can a person that is spiritually timid, distracted or afraid change? How? What role does the gospel play?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction as needed.

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

Scripture that stands out to you while you read

Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you

Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships

Pray that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him