



Sunday 29th August 2021

Family service by Mark Callaghan and Family

Welcome to our Service today, we hope that you are all well and we pray God's Holy Spirit will speak to you as we worship Him together.

Today we will be looking at Matthew 25:14-30 the Parable of the Talents and be thinking about what gifts, talents, abilities, interests we have that we could use to bring Glory to God.

Lets Pray...

Dear Heavenly Father we thank you for your presence we thank you that although we may be gathering in our homes, you are present in each and everyone of them.

Lord thank you that you bless us with so many things. We pray that as we worship together your Holy Spirit will just touch us where we need to be touch by you today we ask this in your precious name

Amen

Worship Song...

10,000 Reasons

*Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name*

The sun comes up, it's a new day
dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass, and whatever
lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening
comes

*Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name*

You're rich in love, and You're slow to
anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is
kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on
singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to
find
*Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name*

And on that day when my strength is
failing
The end draws near and my time has
come
Still my soul will sing Your praise
unending
Ten thousand years and then
forevermore

Bible Reading from Matthew 25:14-30

The Parable of the Talents

Jesus told this parable



The kingdom of heaven is like...

"... a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability.



Then he went on his journey.



The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more.



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

"After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.' "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!' "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.'

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!'



"Then the man who had received the one talent 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. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in

the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' "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? 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.

"Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'



(Matthew 25:23-30 NIV84)



**In Matthew 25:14-30
A talent is a sum of money**

1 talent = 20 years wages

Today we can look at the talent in terms, of yes being money, or a gift, or a talent, etc that we have been given.

Everyone of us has a gift or a talent. God gives us various gifts and talents according to who we are. Some may have more than others as in the parable. We don't all have the same ones – that would make us boring.

Imagine what would happen if everyone had the gift and talent of sport for example – who would make the footballs, or the sports kit we need or cut the grass to play on. Get the idea?



God wants us to use what we have to help spread the gospel, the message about how much He loves us so that more people will become followers of Him.

Many people get hung upon what they can't do rather than what they can do. The servant with the 2 talents didn't look at the one with the 5 and say because I have got 3 less than him I'm not going to do anything with what I do have – no they both put what they had to work and they both got commended by the master upon his return and both got rewarded for what they had done.

Some Christians too get hung up on this I can't do such and such as I don't have that gifting – that is like the servant with the 1 talent who hid what he had in the ground. On the masters return things didn't go so well for him.

So what does that mean for us? You might say I can't go up to people and talk to them about God – well not everyone is gifted that way – but you can be someone that supports someone that does that. Your gift might be whatever you do or did as work enables you to give financially to those that go out and spread the word. It might be that as a result of your work, you live in the house you do in which case showing hospitality might be what you do.



Many kitchen and dining room tables have become pulpits without people even realising it – take the idea of Alpha for example, each session starts with a meal either in a home or larger venue.

Remember when Jesus called Peter, Jesus then used Peter's boat and his skills and talents so that He could get about and share the gospel message. As WORD for the day Saturday 10th July said the sequence of events was as follows:-

First, Peter used his boat for Jesus' purposes. Then Jesus blessed Peter's boat and used it to take care of all Peter's needs. Jesus said,

'Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need'
Matthew 6:33



When we talk about gifts many Christians look to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, these are if you like spiritual gifts. We could argue that other gifts and talents are therefore natural gifts. But it is God that gives them to us in the first place so they are in affect God given Spiritual gifts. We sometimes have these natural gifts because we have been trained in

some way or it is or has been part of our job, maybe it is a hobby such as being creative in some way.

Some gifts of the Holy Spirit From 1 Corinthians 12

- Messages of wisdom
- Message of knowledge
- Faith
- Healing
- Power to do miracles
- Ability to prophesy
- Ability to speak in different kinds of languages
- Ability to explain what was said in those languages



I have for many years been involved in telling Bible stories to children, and as a result have collected a number of props to help me. With the prop in my hand the story is told very often demonstrating certain points of the story with the prop. The point is this whatever God has given you in your hand in the form of a gift or talent use it in some way to tell people about the one that gave it to you. Moses and his staff, David and his sling shot, Paul being a Pharisee knew the law and used that knowledge to show people the way to Jesus.



So as God pointed out to Moses when He asked him what have you got in your hand Moses – a staff Moses replied – that staff was used by God to perform signs and wonders in front of the Egyptians as well as the Israelites, parting the Red Sea, bring water from a rock twice.

Something to think on today – what skill, what talent, what gift, what have you got in your hand that God has given you that you can use for Him.

Words of encouragement from Pauls letter to the Colossians 3:17



To finish our time together we have this lovely hymn.

I want to serve the purpose of God in my generation
I want to serve the purpose of God while I am alive
I want to give my life for something that will last forever
Oh, I delight, I delight to do Your will

I want to build with silver and gold in my generation
I want to build with silver and gold while I am alive
I want to give my life for something that will last forever
Oh, I delight, I delight to do Your will

I want to see the Lord come again in my generation
I want to see the Lord come again while I am alive
I want to give my life for something that will last forever
Oh, I delight, I delight to do Your will

Chorus
What is on Your heart?
Tell me what to do
Let me know Your will
And I will follow You

The Grace ...

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with us all,
Now and forever more.
Amen



**We have two birthdays
this week**

**Happy Birthday
Jean and Barbara**



Barbara Spence
and
Jean Broadhurst

Tuesday 31st August