

LEADER NOTES

Important: Start group time going over the guidelines, even if you think you know them all. Define them.

Safe Environment | Confidentiality
Listen | Pause | Silence | No "Cross Talk" | No Fixing | No Rescuing | Sharing
Be Self-Aware | "I" Statements | Conflict

- Keep the discussion centered on the Master. Everything the servants held belonged to him. Help your group recognize that their time, abilities, resources, opportunities, and influence have been entrusted to them by God.
- Do not let the group focus on comparing what each servant received. The master entrusted different amounts but gave the same affirmation to both faithful servants. God calls us to be faithful with what He has given us.
- Address fear without allowing it to become an excuse. The third servant's fear and distorted view of the master led him to do nothing. Ask where fear or comfort may be keeping someone from acting on what God has made clear.
- Connect personal stewardship to our responsibility as a church. The MET must invest what God has entrusted to us for greater Gospel impact through Reach, Connect, Equip, and Go. Encourage your group to remain prayerful and open to how God wants them to participate in what comes NEXT.

Assign next week's story

Matthew 28: 18-20

- Share & record prayer request.
- Ask a volunteer to close in prayer.
- Follow up throughout the week.
- PLEASE TAKE ATTENDANCE.

Topic: Thinking Like Kingdom Investors

Take Away: God has entrusted His church with resources, people, opportunities, and influence. He expects us to use them faithfully for greater Gospel impact.

God Stories: A God story is an undeniable encounter or experience that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day-to-day life.

Ice Breaker Question: What is something you were hesitant to try but were glad you did?

Background: Jesus is teaching His disciples shortly before His arrest and crucifixion. They had asked Him about His return and the end of the age. In their culture, wealthy landowners often traveled and placed their property under the management of trusted servants. A talent was a large sum of money worth many years of wages. Servants were responsible for advancing their master's interests while he was away. Matthew places this story among teachings about remaining ready, living faithfully, and expecting accountability. The enormous amounts in the story emphasize the value of what the servants were entrusted to manage. Each servant would eventually answer for how he responded to that responsibility. And now the story from God's Word...

This Week's Passage: Matthew 25:14-30

Tell the story. Rebuild the story.

Read the story from God's Word

Head Question: What actions and attitudes distinguish the two faithful servants from the servant who buried what the master entrusted to him?

Heart Question: Where are fear or comfort tempting you to protect what God has entrusted to you instead of investing it in His kingdom?

Hands Questions: What has God entrusted to you through your time, abilities, resources, opportunities, or influence, and how will you put it to work for greater Gospel impact?

TUESDAY TAKEAWAYS

September 15 - Reproducible Disciple-Making Process
TheMet.Church/groupresources