



The Gateway to Generosity

Matthew 25:14-30

July 27, 2025

BIG IDEA

This week we continue our series, “Lord Help Me to Be Generous.” Generosity is not just about money — it’s about how we live with everything God has entrusted to us: time, talents, and treasures. In the Parable of the Talents, Jesus teaches us that living generously starts with recognizing who truly owns everything. When we believe Christ is returning soon, it changes how we invest our lives. True generosity is a way of life that reflects faith, takes risks, and acts now — not later. We don’t cling to what isn’t ours. Instead, we steward what belongs to Jesus for his purposes and joyfully await his return.

THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:14-30 (ESV)

14 “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.

15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more.

17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more.

18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money.

19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.’

21 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’

22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.’

23 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’

24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed,

25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is



yours.'

26 But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed?

27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest.

28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.

29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

MAIN THEME

Generosity begins by understanding that everything belongs to Jesus — we are stewards, not owners. When we truly believe that Christ is coming back, it compels us to act with urgency, faith, and courage. Generosity is empowered by faith that risks, a willingness to act now, and a desire to hear "Well done" from the Master. What we do with what we've been given matters, both for now and for eternity.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. **Who Owns Your Stuff?**

Matthew 25:14-15

- What does it mean that the Master "entrusted" his property to his servants?
- How does this challenge our culture's view of ownership and wealth?
- What would change in your life if you viewed all your time, talents, and treasures as God's?

2. **Generosity Takes Faith and Risk**

Matthew 25:16-18

- How did the first two servants demonstrate faith through their actions?
- What fears keep people from living generously?
- Where might God be calling you to take a faith-risk for his kingdom?

3. **The Time is Now**

Matthew 25:16

- The servant with five talents "went at once." Why is acting now significant when it comes to generosity?
- What opportunities to give, serve, or invest have you been delaying?
- How can a sense of Christ's imminent return inspire urgency in your generosity?



4. **Joy Awaits the Faithful**

Matthew 25:20-21

- What do you think it means to “enter into the joy of your master”?
- How does living generously help you experience the joy of Jesus even now?
- What motivates you more: the joy of generosity or the fear of missing out?

5. **Don't Waste the Opportunity**

Matthew 25:24-30

- Why do you think the third servant buried his talent?
- What does this teach us about the dangers of fear, procrastination, or selfishness?
- What resources or gifts in your life might be “buried” instead of invested?

PRAY

Jesus, thank you for entrusting us with so much — not just resources, but opportunities to love, serve, and bless others. Help us to live with urgency and faith, knowing that you are coming back. Teach us to live generously, taking risks for your kingdom and investing in what matters most. May we live in a way that prepares us to hear you say, “Well done.” Make us good and faithful servants, eager to enter your joy. Amen.

DIG DEEPER

For further study this week:

- 1 Corinthians 4:2 — It is required of stewards that they be found faithful
- Matthew 6:19-21 — Store up treasures in heaven
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 — God loves a cheerful giver
- Hebrews 11:6 — Without faith it is impossible to please God
- James 2:14-17 — Faith without works is dead

NEXT WEEK'S BIG IDEA

Lord, help me to be generous with all of my treasure (Luke 16:1-13).

