



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of October 20, 2025

1. Did you ever play “buried treasure” as a kid, by yourself or with friends? What did you hide, and how did you hide it? Was it something valuable? How long did it stay hidden for? Tell your story.
2. Read **Matthew 25:14-30** as a group. Each person should read one verse out loud.
3. When Jesus tells a “parable” in the Gospels, it is typically a short story that is true-to-life and has just one primary point. What would you say is the one, primary point of this “Parable of the Talents”?

*** For context clues, take a look at the two previous parables in 24:44-51 and 25:1-13. ***

The Two Servants: You should be expectantly watching for Jesus.

The Ten Bridesmaids: You should be patiently waiting for Jesus.

The Talents: You should be diligently _____ for Jesus.

4. If Jesus has given you your earthly blessings and spiritual resources “...according to your ability” (v 15) – why should you not be jealous of another Christian’s money, possessions, of spiritual capabilities? What should you be doing instead of comparing or complaining?
5. Even though the first servant was entrusted with FIVE talents and the second servant TWO talents– both servants received an equal reward from the master. What was their reward? What was it that the Master commended in each servant?
6. Does Jesus commend equal FRUITFULNESS — or equal FAITHFULNESS – in the way we serve Him? Explain your answer. Do you have to be a pastor, missionary, or full-time vocational minister to make a difference for Christ’s kingdom? Discuss 1 Peter 4:10-11 before you answer.
7. This powerful parable leaves no room for the so-called “carnal Christian” who is disinterested or distracted from serving Jesus. True servants of Jesus are those who “do” His work– and those who “do not” reveal by their actions and attitudes that they do not belong to Jesus (verses 28-30). How does the truth of this parable align with James 1:22 and 2:14-17?
8. How does “the stewardship of doing” separate the true believer from the religious pretender? Can you name a tangible, concrete, real-world way that you are serving Jesus on a regular basis?

It’s not what you have, but how you use what you have that matters to Jesus.