## MATTHEW DAILY STUDY GUIDE Matthew 25:14-30

DAY ONE: OBSERVATION. Read Matt. 25:14-30 slowly and prayerfully. What stands out to you in this passage? Why? The kingdom of heaven is like\_\_\_\_\_ (25:14)A talent (Greek, talanton) was equal to about 58-80 pounds of gold or silver. Each talent was worth ~20 years of labor. So take an average yearly salary and multiply it by 20. This is the value of one talent. To one he gave \_\_\_\_\_ talents, to another, \_\_\_\_\_, and to another, \_\_\_\_\_, each according to his ; and he went on his journey (25:15) Write down three observations about the master from this parable. Write down three observations about the first two servants. Write down three observations about the third servant. What excuse(s) does the last servant give for doing nothing?

**DAY TWO: MEDITATION**. Read and meditate on Matthew 25:19-21. Write out your thoughts or your prayer to God.

**DAY THREE: INTERPRETATION**. Our English word "talent" actually comes from this parable. Because of this, we often assume that the talents in this parable equal their abilities. But notice that the talents are given "based on their abilities." So the talent is something different from their abilities, given to them based on their abilities, and of incredible value. What do you think the talent may represent?

The third servant calls the master a "harsh, intolerable" (Greek, *skleros*) man. Do you think this is a fair assessment of the master? If not, then why do you think the third servant describes his master in this way?

**DAY FOUR: DEVOTION**. John Walvoord (1910-2002) was the former president of Dallas Seminary and a beloved teacher of biblical prophecy. Read his thoughts on Matthew 25:14-30 at <a href="walvoord.com/article/219">walvoord.com/article/219</a>. What stands out to you after reading Walvoord's words?

**DAY FIVE: APPLICATION.** Re-read Matthew 25:14-30 and reflect on its message. God calls us to be **faithful** with the blessings, opportunities, responsibilities, and relationships that He has given us. How would you define faithfulness? What would it look like in your life right now?

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