

Series: **One Month to Live LIVE PASSIONATELY**

Matthew 25:14-30

Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a trip (A man going on a trip = God).

He called together his servants (His servants = us) and gave them money to invest for him while he was gone. <sup>15</sup> He gave five bags of gold to one, two bags of gold to another, and one bag of gold to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities—and then left on his trip....

**I. Our master is generous and loving and wants us to participate in wonderful joys.**

John 10:10 “My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.”

Matthew 11:19

For John the Baptist didn't drink wine and he often fasted, and you say, 'He's demon possessed.' <sup>19</sup> And I, the Son of Man, feast and drink, and you say, 'He's a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of the worst sort of sinners!'

A. Misinterpretations

1. Misinterpretation #1: Christianity is a life of rule-keeping.

Pharisees' view: A successful life is one that keeps all the rules (the Law).

They always listened to Jesus to discover where he was breaking the rules.

2. Misinterpretation #2: God is a harsh taskmaster.

Servant with one talent: “I know you are a hard man, harvesting crops you didn't plant and gathering crops you didn't cultivate...”

B. The truth about life

1. God created life to enjoy
2. We share God's treasures and resources.

Romans 8:17-19

And since we are his children, we will share his treasures—for everything God gives to his Son, Christ, is ours, too. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.

<sup>18</sup> Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will give us later. <sup>19</sup> For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.

The first two servants took what God gave them and applied their gifts and talents to it, multiplying the total.

**II. We all are made in God's image, yet each of us is unique**

- A. The servants had differing numbers of talents.
- B. The disciples had different personalities and gifts, even Judas.

(Was it fear that forced Judas to betray Christ?)

- C. How are you unique?

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**III. Let us live passionately!**

What would you do if you knew you could not fail?

What would you do if you only had thirty days to live?

- A. Move beyond the “someday syndrome”

When things settle down

When I graduate

When I get married

When I retire

- B. Recognize and develop your spiritual side

C. S. Lewis: “you don't have a soul. You have a body. You ARE a soul.

- C. Don't let fear shape your life

The shape of protoplasm is determined by its obstacles.

Hebrews 11:6

So, you see, it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that there is a God and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.