



Leaders

OPEN

Go around and let everyone answer...

Describe a time that you had to take care of something important that did not belong to you?

or... When have you let someone take care of important things for you?

DIG

Using parables Jesus taught some fascinating lessons about God's kingdom and the end of time. The following story is about stewardship, or taking care of what belongs to someone else.

Read Matthew 25:14-18 to identify how the master treated different servants.

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey who called his servants..."

In what ways did the master treat the servants the same? or differently?

What impact did each servant's ability have in how they were treated?

How does the story show the master's respect for each of the servants?

Read Matthew 25:19-23 to see the results of the servant's work.

"After a long time the master of those servants returned..."

In what ways did the master reward the first two servants?

Explain how you personally believe the rewards were fair or unfair.

Read Matthew 25:24-30 and look for the attitude of the final servant.

"Then the man who had received one bag..."

How would you describe the attitude of this servant toward his master?

How did the opportunity of the last servant compare to the first two?

What parts of this whole story do you find frustrating? Why?

APPLY

Explain what you see as the most important messages in this story?

What have you done with what God has given you?

Sermon Series

This discussion guide is based on a sermon series entitled "The Kingdom Unleashed: Themes in the Book of Acts." The series is designed to motivate people to embrace the Kingdom of God in their lives, making disciples of others.

Big Idea

This lesson is a reminder of everything we own is a gift from God and we must honor him with what we have.

Prayer

Pray for courage to use everything you have in a way that glorifies God.

Group Discussion Reminder

Most people enjoy learning about God in a spiritual group. However, the real glue that holds a group together is relationships. Encourage openness and development of relationships both in and outside of the regular group meeting times.