

Scriptures Shaping Us - Finish

Thomas Thompson

Matthew 25:14-30

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Reflection & Discussion Questions

We are always preparing to hand the baton off to our Future Me

We can set Future Me up for the best lap of life.

*What did you want to be when you grew up?

*Are there things you thought you would've done by this point in your life that you haven't?

Read and discuss Matthew 25:14-29(NIV)

¹⁴ "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.'

²¹ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²² "The man with two bags of gold also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.'

²³ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²⁴ "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

²⁶ "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

²⁸ "So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

*What is this passage saying? What does it tell us about God?

*What is this passage saying to us? What does our King expect from us in His Kingdom?

The King expects stewardship until the very end

Those who finish well understand God has entrusted us with ourselves.

*What does it mean to steward ourselves? How do you lead yourself?

Leading myself well means...knowing how God wired me

When we know ourselves, we see the fingerprints of God.

*How have you learned to know God more by learning how He created you?

*What are some ways you think God uniquely made you? How has that shaped how you steward yourself?

Leading myself well means...paying attention to key gaps of my life

When God shows us a gap in our lives, he wants us to do something about it.

*What is your frustration gap?

*Where are places that you are afraid of risking or reaching to who you could have been?

Leading myself well means...keeping focused on the next lap.

It's not the How; it's the Who and the What.

*How are you or can you pay focused attention to your next lap?

*Are there some Whats you may have ignored because of unanswered Hows?

*How can you give some space for Him to answer the Hows?

Visual reflection (Visio Divina)* [Burn](#) by Justin Christenbery

Song for reflection [You're Not Finished Yet](#) by The Belonging Co. (feat. Maggie Reed)

*Visio divina – a thoughtful and slow way of contemplating a visual prompt like a piece of art, photograph or image and inviting God to speak to you through it. First, focus on the detail that your eyes are drawn to right away – keep focus there and pay attention to what thoughts and emotions you are having. Then, look at the entire image and consider it as a whole, being aware of thoughts, questions and emotions it provokes. End in silence and prayer, considering your experience and anything you feel called to respond to.