

The Kingdom of God
Lesson 26: The Parable of the Minas
LifeWalk Leader Guide

Open/Icebreakers: In modern day terms, how would you advise someone on how to make a good investment? Talk about that process. How do you feel when your investment does not provide the return you anticipated? Describe your feelings.

Digging In: Luke 19:11-27

1. Does this story sound familiar? What are the similarities and differences between this story and the Parable of the Talents found in Matthew 25:14-30?
2. What is the point of this parable? Remember that a parable is told to specifically support that point. Does this story help us understand why the kingdom won't appear at once? As we read verse 11, why would Jesus have to tell a parable about this aspect of the Kingdom? Were there clues in the previous verses on what kind of Kingdom these people were looking for?
3. Herod the Great (the ruler when Jesus was born) was nearing the end of his rule when his son, Archaleus, petitioned the Romans to allow him to rule. Sources say he had several thousand Jews killed to try to "keep law and order" as he was seeking rule. A group of Jews also went to petition the Romans to not allow Archaleus' rule. Knowing this would have been "common knowledge" to Jesus' audience, how do these facts enhance your understanding of the parable?
4. The denomination of wage that is given in this parable is commonly understood as three months worth of wages. Three characters are given different minas. What did the servants do with 10 minas and 5 minas? What was their reward? Do you find it strange that the master seemed to give these servants such a large reward? Why would he do this? What lesson could we learn from this?
5. Can you guess why the "one mina man" behaved the way that he did? How did he reach these conclusions about the master? Do you think they are true? Why or Why not?
6. How did the master respond to the "one mina man?" Why did he respond this way? Is there a lesson(s) we learn about the Kingdom from this response?
7. What happened to the one mina? Why was there objection? What is Jesus' response? What is he seeking to teach? What were the consequences for disobedience?
8. How did Jesus conclude this teaching? What strikes you about what He says? Does this sound like something Jesus would say? Does it seem harsh? What is His point?

Reflection:

1. What did faithfulness and obedience look like in the parable? What would it look like in our relationship to Jesus today?
2. In the parable, the ruler gave the servants money to invest for a return. What would it look like to invest the resources God has given each of us today? What would a return be?

Prayer: Father God, give us a beautiful vision for your beautiful kingdom. Confront us with the truth of who you are. Thank you for your beautiful love for us. Thank you for Jesus and His sacrifice. Holy Spirit, move my heart to love and service.