




1 **In this passage Jesus is trying to correct the expectations of his followers that the kingdom of God was about to appear.** What were some of the false expectations of his followers?

 *How does the kingdom of God arrive? Think of the already and not-yet theme for the kingdom of God? Where are we in the timeline of the already and not-yet?*

2 **What can we learn from the first two servants in the passage?** Think of their example and the master's high praise: "Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful..."? What does God desire from us?

 *How are the servants rewarded? Think about why their reward for faithful duty is more faithful duty. How will the faithful servants of Christ be rewarded? Interact with the following passages: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10; Revelation 20:4-6; Colossians 3:22-24;*


 *What is the mina? How does the fact that all the servants received the same mina color what it could represent?*

 *How does the example of the faithful servants encourage you? In what area of your life do you most struggle to live intentionally for Christ? How can we encourage each other to be faithful?*

3 **The third slave claimed he stowed away his minas because he feared his master.** Why did he fear the Master? How was his fear founded on a caricature of the master?

 *How does fear keep us from faithfulness? How might we move past those fears to be faithful?*

4 **Regardless of the talents or resources we have, we all have been entrusted with the gospel.**

 *What does Jesus expect us to do with the gospel? How can you use your gifts to meet this expectation?*

 *What does the passage reveal about the authority of Christ? Read Hebrews 9:27 how does this motivate us to take on the work of Christ?*

#### **Prayer Points**

- > *Pray for God to be the revealer of our heart; that he would search our hearts and reveal any grievous way.*
- > *Pray through the truths of Galatians 2:20 where Paul writes - I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*