



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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God Requires Faithfulness!

Scripture: Luke 16:1-12; Luke 19:11-26; Matthew 25:14-30

Faithfulness - It describes believers as loyal, trustworthy, and firm in their faith and obedience and isn't easily swayed. **Faithfulness implies a continuous, habitual action or lifestyle.** Our faithfulness to God means trusting in Him and loving Him through all circumstances. It means following His commandments even when we would rather choose a different path. In essence, biblical faithfulness is a multi-faceted concept that encompasses God's unwavering character and the corresponding call for us to live with unwavering loyalty, reliability, and commitment in our relationship with God and others.

God expects His followers to use their abilities and resources wisely. The return God expects of us is commensurate with the gifts we have been given. The Master in these parables represents God, who entrusts His followers with various gifts—be it skills, abilities, family connections, social positions, education, experiences, resources, opportunities and more. The expectation is not equal output but faithful effort based on what each individual has received. God does not endow people with identical or necessarily equal gifts. And God does not expect identical or necessarily equal results from everyone's work.

Faithfulness is an essential part of who God is and, in His faithfulness, God protects us from evil, sets limits on our temptations, forgives us of sin, and sanctifies us. **However, our faith in God is determined by our attitude corresponding to His faithfulness as faithfulness is the center of all that He requires from us and we must determine how much we need it and how blessed it would make us!** Faithfulness two qualities need a secure beginning and ending point. The **beginning point** of faith is believing in God's character—He is who He says. The **ending point** is believing in God's promises—He will do what He says. When we believe that God will fulfill His promises even though we don't see those promises materializing, we demonstrate true faith.

Our talents are not about hierarchy but responsibility. Jesus' rewards faithfulness. While some have greater responsibilities, no one is superior to another. God gives us diverse talents for His glory, not ours. Although we all have these diverse talents, the Spirit produces the same fruit in all our lives (Galatians 5:22-23).

Jesus is coming back—we know this is true. Does this mean we should quit our jobs in order to serve God? **No, it means we are to use our time, talents, and treasures diligently in order to serve God completely in whatever we do.** For a few people, this may mean changing professions. For most of us, it means doing our daily work out of love for God.

These parables describe the consequences of two attitudes toward Christ's return. The person who diligently prepares for it by investing his time and talents to serve God will be rewarded. The person who has no heart for the work of the Kingdom will be punished. God rewards faithfulness. Those who bear no fruit for God's Kingdom cannot expect to be treated the same as those who are faithful.

It is a privilege to be entrusted with talents, resources, and opportunities to work toward God's purposes in the world. It challenges us to be diligent stewards of our gifts, actively engaging in the work of the kingdom and preparing for the Master's return. **It serves as a reminder that our actions and choices have eternal significance.**

God's faithfulness symbolizes a universal covenant. The **rainbow** applies not only to humanity but to all living creatures and the earth itself, symbolizing God's care for all creation. The rainbow is thus a powerful symbol of grace, mercy, and divine faithfulness.

There are key aspects of faithfulness: **(1)** Faithfulness is rooted in trust in God and His promises. **(2)** It involves obedience to God's commands and a willingness to follow His will. **(3)** Faithfulness requires a deep commitment to God and to one's responsibilities. **(4)** It emphasizes a consistent and reliable way of living, reflecting God's own consistency.

People of God, Remember God requires Faithfulness!