Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle A - XXXIII Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 31: 10-13. 19-20. 30-31; Psalm 127; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6; Mathew 25, 14-30 o 25, 14-15. 19-21

The Parable of the Talents

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one--to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money. "After a long time, the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, 'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.' His master said to him in reply, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.'"



Reflection

Jesus loves us and gives us many gifts: our life, family, qualities, and talents… He wants us to share these to help build the Kingdom of God. He teaches us this with a parable (a story with a teaching). **Who does the man that left on a trip represent?** God. **Who do the servants that he left in charge with his goods represent?** Jesus' followers. **What does the money that he gave them to invest represent?** The talents and blessings that God gives each person. **How does the man react when his servants doubled the money given them?** He praises them calling them good and faithful servants and invites them to enter the happiness of the Lord. **What does the happiness of the Lord represent?** Heaven. **What does he tell the servant that buried his money for fear of losing it?** He calls him a bad and lazy servant; he orders to take his money to give it to the one that had the most. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside. **What does Jesus want to teach us?** Each person receives different talents and blessings which can be multiplied when shared to help build the Kingdom of God and thus earn the eternal happiness of God. **How can we use our talents to build the Kingdom of God on earth?** Pray for others, obey God's commandments of love, go to mass, be kind to others, help an those in need, sharing our things, share our talents…

Activity

On the following page, see the blessings and think how to use them to help others. What other blessings do you have?

Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for all the blessings and talents you give me. Help me to be generous and brave so I may put these gifts in the service of others and help build Your Kingdom. I love you. Amen

Song: A Gift to You, KWSCM, (Ctrl Click), **https://youtu.be/n3iG1gkW9R0**

PPT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Z6SB4srYvM_xALYrOJHHt1oUNyIczKIL/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true

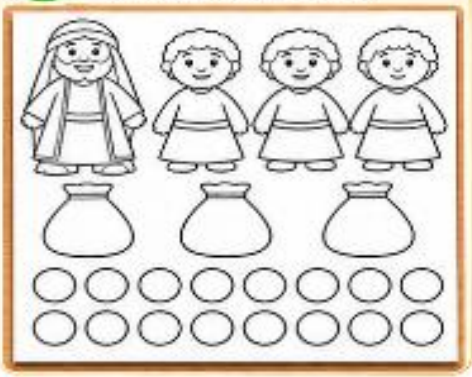


Materials

- Colored cardstock (or craft foam)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers
- Gold coins (can be cardstock circles, craft foam circles, or stickers)
- Template (optional)



1 Print the template or draw the pieces.



2 Cut out all the pieces.



3 Make the money bags.



Cut out the bags and glue the top part (a strip of cardstock or foam).

4 Glue the starting coins.



Glue 5 coins on the first bag, 2 on the second, and 1 on the third.

5 Assemble the characters.



Cut out and assemble the characters. Glue the pieces (skin, clothes, hair, face).

6 Give each character his bag.



Glue the bag into the hands of each character.

7 Cut out more coins to add at the end.



Cut out several extra coins from cardstock or foam. You will use them at the end to place the coins the servants received for growing their talents.



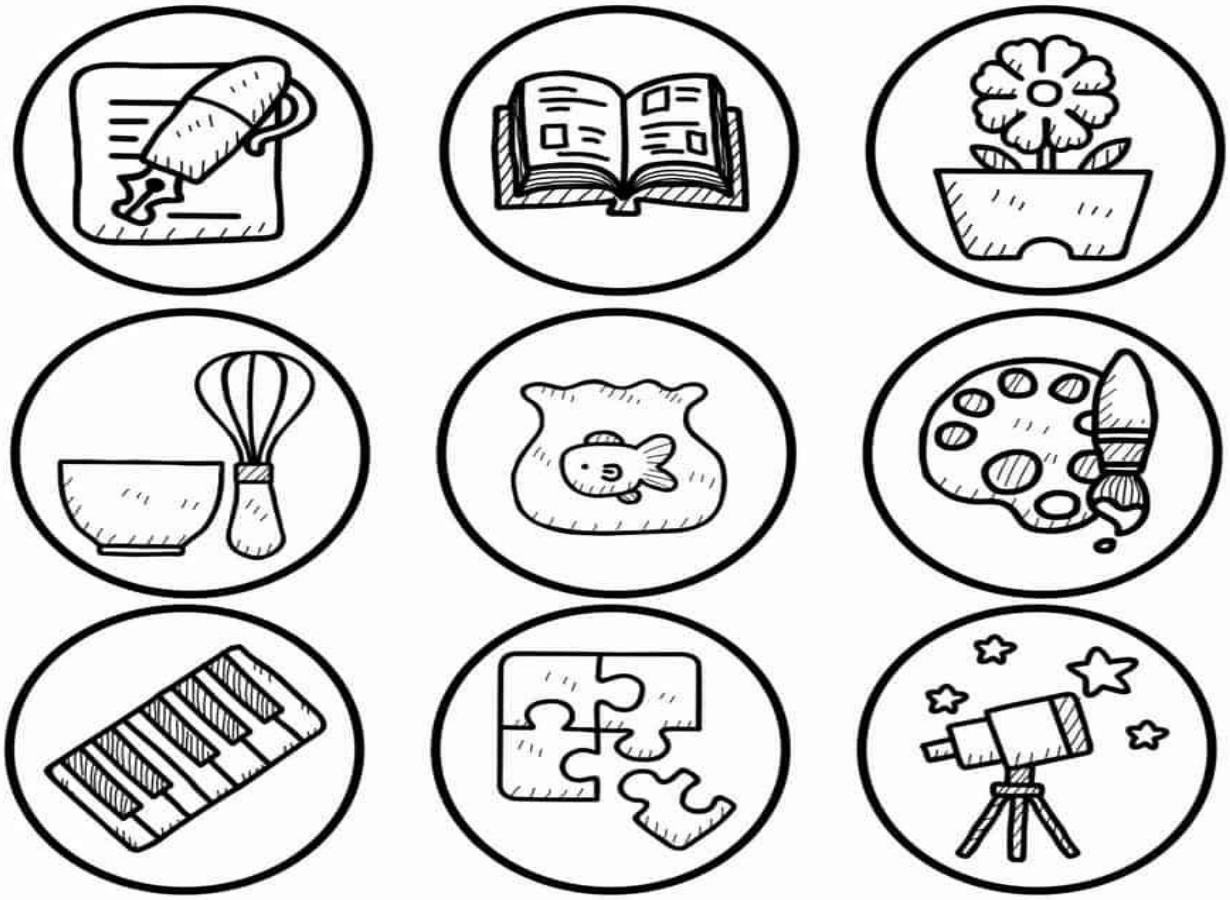
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USE WHATEVER GIFTS YOU HAVE RECEIVED TO SERVE OTHERS.

1 Peter 4:10



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