

## The Parable of the Talents.

### Interactive presentation for young children - nursery

**You will need:**

**Special bag or handbag.**

**Small tray or table mat**

**Small figurines: ruler plus three servants – perhaps finger puppets, or simply drawings.**

**Gold coins – chocolate money works well!**

**Three smaller individual bags or envelopes.**

In this bag, I have a story, a special story about five talents and about our work at Five Talents...

(Use a special bag.)

Inside the bag, I have a **present**. It is in this little bag and it is a **parable**.

Parables are precious like gold!

Like this bag and like a birthday present, they need to be opened.

(Look at audience.)

Shall we open it?

I wonder what's inside!

Once, there was a man who said and did such wonderful things that people followed him. He spoke about the Kingdom of Heaven - they had not been there, they did not know what he meant or where it was, so he told them this story to explain to them about the Kingdom of Heaven.

Here is a kingdom and here is a garden.

(Take out tray or table mat from bag)

Once there was a very rich ruler.

(Take ruler out of bag.)

He was called away to a distant country, but before he left, he called his three servants to him.

(Take three servants out of bag.)

He gave them each a bag of money.

(Take out three small bags of money.)

To the first servant, he gave **one** talent.

(Show the first bag with one talents inside. Put it beside the servant.)

To the second servant, he gave **two** talents.

(Show the two talents in a small bag with two extra talents hidden inside it.)

To a third servant, he gave a bag with **five** talents in it.

(Showed the bag of five coins with five extra talents hidden inside.)

The rich ruler then went on a long journey.

(Move the ruler behind your back.)

While he was away, the three servants were busy

(Take first servant with his bag.)

The first servant took his money and **buried it in the garden!**

(The first servant takes the talent bag and hides it under the mat.)

He thought 'My master, the rich ruler, is expecting too much from me. I will just bury his talent here in the garden where it will be safe.'

The second servant took the money and bought a small piece of land and grew potatoes which she sold in the market.

Very soon, she had made a good return for her money and she soon had the first two talents back plus two more!

(Open the bag and show two extra talents!)

The third servant took his money and did some woodwork and used his skills as a carpenter

Soon he had five talents - and five more!

(Show all ten talents in the bag. )

Not long after this, the **rich ruler** returned from his long journey.

(Take the rich ruler out from behind your back.)

He went to the third servant who showed him his carpentry workshop.

The servant said ' Look master, you gave me five talents and I have got five more for you! '

The rich ruler said 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have looked after a few things well. I will make you a ruler over many things. Come and party with me and share my joy.'

(Move ruler towards the second servant)

The second servant said 'Look master, you gave me two talents and I have two more for you! '

' Well done! ' said the master. ' You have been faithful with a few things. I will make you a ruler over many things. Come, let us have a party and be joyful! '

(Move the rich ruler to the third servant and get third servant to find the money under the mat.)

The third servant said ' I think you expect too much from us! I think you are a hard man and I was scared, so I hid your talent in the ground. Look there, you can have your talent back again!'

(Get the third servant to drop the one talent at the Master's feet.)

The rich ruler then said ' You have been wicked and lazy. At least you could have put the money in the bank where it could have earned interest, and got bigger. I will give this talent to someone else who will use it. '

## **Pause and think.**

I wonder...

I wonder who this *rich ruler* is?

I wonder what the *talents* are?

I wonder if *you* have some sort of special gift or blessing?

I wonder what *you're doing* with your talents?

I wonder whether we have the same *confidence in giving* as the rich ruler had with his servants?

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[bridgetsteenkamp@wlf.org](mailto:bridgetsteenkamp@wlf.org)

For more information, please contact Five Talents UK

Tel. 0845 054 7525

Email: [info@fivetalents.org.uk](mailto:info@fivetalents.org.uk)