

LIFE Group Leader Handout

June 16, 2019 Father's Day

Vital Virtue

Pastor Michael O'Connor

Scripture--Matthew 25:14-30

14 "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and **faithful** servant. You have been **faithful** over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and **faithful** servant. You have been **faithful** over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Main Idea--God is Faithful; Faithfulness is a Virtue God is looking for in his Followers

Our God is a faithful God

The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23

Why God's faithfulness is important today--

- It is the basis for our hope--Hebrews 10:23
- It is our assurance that we can live victoriously--I Corinthians 10:13
- It is our promise for forgiveness and cleansing--I John 1:9
- It is our confidence for God's protection--2 Thessalonians 3:3

It is a virtue God is looking for in his followers--see Matthew 25:14-30

'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' (Matthew 25:21)

What choices bring enduring faithfulness to our lives?

- Keep the switch in the "on" position--Luke 16:10-12
- Plug in to God's power source--I Thessalonians 5:23-4
- Live with the end in mind. *Well done, good and faithful servant...Enter into the joy of your master.'*

Application--

- How is the truth that God is a promise keeping God very important to you right now?
- Growing up, did the promise makers in your life give you a good view or a tarnished view of your Heavenly Father as a promise keeper?
- What "faithfulness protections" do you have in place in your life?