

# 30 Days of Prayer

## Day 26

### Matthew 25.20-21

<sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

God of resources,

Teach me to be a faithful servant, freely investing your resources back into your world. Teach me to open my hands instead of clenching my fists. Teach me to give rather than hoard. Teach me to love rather than hate or fear.

You are a God of abundance, generosity, benevolence, kindness, compassion, trust, mercy, and hope. Help me squelch fear, mistrust, and despair, so that I can faithfully and unabashedly pour my blessings upon others, leaving this world better than when you gave me responsibility to care for it. In the name of Christ,

Amen.

Today's parable is a difficult one. The entire parable talks about a man who entrusted his money to three of his servants. Two of them invested the money and made more. They were rewarded. The third hid the money and gave back only what he had been given. The man was angry and punished the servant. This story goes against our sensibilities because today, "investing" can be as slippery as "gambling."

But the parable is warning us against hoarding money. It suggests that the only way to be faithful stewards is to "invest" our money. We can do that by spending it wisely and by giving it away. We can invest in our children, in our communities, and in our world. When we invest freely and without fear, then we will be put in charge of even more resources, and we will enter into the joy of the master. "Well done, good and trustworthy servant!"