

Sermon: Faithful to the King While Waiting for the Kingdom

Series: *Luke: The Gospel for Everyone.*

Scripture: Luke 19:11-27

Date: February 8, 2026

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) In the parable, the third servant could only see the King as severe. Read Hebrews 11:6. Do you tend to see God as only harsh, severe, or unkind, or do you see him as a rewarder of those who seek him?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Besides the king, the parable shows us those who reject the king's rule, the two faithful servants, and the unfaithful third servant. Which of these characters can you most relate to and why?

b) "God rewards faithfulness, not giftedness." How does this thought encourage you in your service to the Lord? Why is it so important for a church to embrace this truth?

c) The third servant was afraid of the king and believed a lie about the king – that he only takes and never gives. Can you identify any lies that you believe about Jesus or God? Any fears that keep you from serving Jesus?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) This parable can sound harsh, but it is actually full of grace. What examples of the king's grace can you see in the parable? How does this compare to how Paul describes Christ's return in Titus 2:11-14?

b) In the story, the king is also the judge who destroys those who reject him (verse 27). It is true that Christ is the judge, but how must we balance this with his death on the cross? Does your theology allow for both the judgment and mercy of Jesus?

APPLICATION

a) The parable is not a call to do more, but it is a call to be faithful. Is there an area of your life where you need to increase your faithfulness to God? Serving? Meeting needs? Witnessing? Using gifts for the church? Serving in your vocation? Discipling? Leading your family?

PRAYER

- Praise God for being a rewarder of those who faithfully seek him.
- Confess ways that you have seen God and Christ as only severe and withholding.
- Thank Jesus for being "slaughtered" for us on the cross so that we might be forgiven.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to use all Christ has given to you for his kingdom, not your own.