



# Small Groups

Parish Community of Saint Helen

**Sunday, November 19, 2023**  
**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**The Time is Now Week 3**

## Opening Song

[Our God is Here ~ Saint Helen Band](#)

## Opening Prayer

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,  
My memory, my understanding and my entire will,  
all I have and call my own.  
you have given all to me.  
To you, Lord, I return it.  
everything is yours,  
do with it what you will.  
Give me only your love and your grace  
that is enough for me.  
~ St. Ignatius of Loyola

## Gospel

Mt 25:14-30

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.

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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 Video:** [Weekend Homily](#)

## Discussion Questions

1. What would the *Wall Street Journal* call the way the master in the parable treated his servants?
2. What kind of responsibility do you feel toward God regarding your gifts? Do any of your gifts allow you to share the love of Christ in the world?

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3. Erma Bombeck once was quoted as saying, “When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, 'I used everything you gave me'.” If you faced the Lord today, how much of your talents would you be able to say you used?
4. What changes would be required for you to be satisfied with how you are using your gifts?
5. As we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving, which of your gifts are you most grateful for, and how are you using them?

## Closing Prayer

Ask for the group intentions ~ *Lord hear our prayer* after each

*Glory be to the Father,*

*and to the Son,*

*and to the Holy Spirit.*

*As it was in the beginning,*

*is now,*

*and ever shall be,*

*world without end.*

*Amen.*

## Closing Reflection Song

[I Am Yours ~ Consume Me ~ Trevor Thomson](#)