

DRAMATIZING THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

As a parent or teacher reads the parable from Matthew 25:14-30, let the children dramatize it.

Suggested Props:

silver “talents” *

a bathrobe for the master

little sacks or pouches for holding the silver talents

a pot of dirt for burying the single talent

optional: linen or other fabric, spices, pottery, olive oil, and other items for trading

* *To make the talents, cover cardboard circles with aluminum foil or use large silver coins such as U.S. silver dollars.*

Key Scenes:

1. Man calling three servants and giving one servant five talents, another two talents, and the third servant one talent. Then he leaves to start his journey.
2. The servant who was given five talents trades with them and makes another five talents. (The servant can go to an area where you have set up some of the optional materials that could have been traded at that time and then return with ten talents. But we should think of the doubling of the talents as being a gradual process since the master was gone a long time.)
3. The servant with two talents does what the first servant did, trading and gaining two more.
4. The third servant buries his one talent in the ground.
5. The master returns from his journey. The servant with five talents comes and shows ten talents, and the master praises him.
6. The servant with two talents comes and shows that he now has four, and the master praises him.
7. The third servant brings back the talent that the master gave him, explaining that he buried it in the ground. The master was displeased, and he ordered that the talent be taken from this servant and given to the one who had ten talents.