

RIVERSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCHES
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION
Matthew 25:14-30 – Faithful or not

1. What do you think waiting for Jesus consists of?

Read Matthew 25:14-30

2. What do you notice about the master's expectations of his servants? (see especially verses 15, 21, 23 and 27) How do verses 14-15 of Matthew 25 set the context for the attitude of God towards his servants?
3. What do you think motivates the first servant's speedy response (noted as "at once" in verse 15/16)?
4. Does the third servant's complaint in verse 24 ("you are a hard man", etc) ring true within the story? What would have given an Israelite this impression of God? What might give people like us this impression of God?
5. What do you notice about the master's reaction and "rewards" to the three servants (verses 21, 23, and 26-30)?
6. The third servant calls himself afraid (vs25), and yet the master calls him lazy (v26). What wrong fear or laziness do you experience in being a *faithful Christian* as a father, wife, worker, student, retiree, etc?
7. How does this passage provide an antidote to laziness as Christians in those areas of life and responsibility? What is good and faithful service to God in your life?
8. How does the fact that Jesus tells this parable on the way to the cross shape our view of God as the master?
9. What do you think is meant by sharing the master's joy? How does God share his joy with his servants? Is God's joy available for sharing now?
10. How can future joy and hearing God say "well done" motivate us now?
11. Does work and responsibility cease in the kingdom of heaven? (see verse 21 and 23). What does change then?
12. Following from the earlier parable in chapter 25, how does this passage help us think about what waiting for God looks like?