

Silence (2 minutes) Take some time to be quiet, to calm down, and to listen. What has God been teaching you? What are the next steps He wants you to take? How is your spirit doing?

Scripture "Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns." Matthew 24:45-46

Discussion Jesus uses the analogy of a master returning to both faithful and unfaithful servants as an illustration for his followers to help them prepare for his return. The faithful and wise servants do what their master has assigned them to do; not just once, but repeatedly. We don't know when Jesus will return or when this physical life of ours will be over. Each day we need to commit ourselves to live out what Jesus told us to do. We commit ourselves to dig out what the Bible tells us about our relationship with Jesus, our relationship with others, our thoughts, finances, temptations, building up the Church, sharing the Gospel, and loving our neighbor. We need to put these teachings into practice each day. We also need to commit ourselves to prayer. We need to mature in talking to God and listening to Him; growing to recognize and obey the voice of our Shepherd.

Application Take time today to consider what the Lord has called you to do in this life. Are you using your gifts actively to serve Christ and His Church? This might not look like full-time ministry in your life, but perhaps it looks like sharing your faith with a coworker, encouraging a Christian brother or sister who is currently struggling, or committing to serve on a Sunday morning. Whatever it is the Lord leads you to do, take that first step today!

Prayer Jesus, thank you that I am your servant. I commit myself to seek out through prayer and studying the Bible how You want me to live. Thank you that You have given me the privilege of serving You. May your kingdom come in and through my life. May your will be done in and through my life. I submit myself to You. You are my Master, Judge, Savior, Shepherd, and my God. I praise You. Amen.

Silence (2 minutes) Talk to God about what you are learning. What are your fears? Where are your hangups? Pray for direction.

Scripture memory for the week:

"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope.
Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed,
for His compassions never fail.
They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:21-23