

Read Matthew 24:45-51

3) What separates the faithful servant from the unfaithful servant?

4) Where might apathy quietly be forming in your life?

Matthew 25:1-5

5) What does the extra oil represent in the parable of the bridesmaids?

6) Does your walk with Jesus reflect fad or faithfulness?

Matthew 25:14–15

7) What opportunities has God entrusted to you?

8) Do you tend to respond to opportunity with faith or fear?

Matthew 25:31–40

9) In difficult times, where should our efforts be focused?

10) What is one practical step you can take this week to be faithful?

CHAIR TIME TOOLS

Reflection Questions for Chair Time: think about the following questions and pray through them with Jesus.

- 1) Where does something in me need to shift from fad to faithful?
- 2) Am I prepared to remain faithful until He returns?
- 3) In the most difficult times, where are my efforts truly directed?

What COULD be Written About You?

Pastor Craig Sweeney | February 15, 2026

Thread: What could be written about you in the most difficult times?

Later, Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives. His disciples came to him privately and said, “Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will signal your return and the end of the world?” Jesus told them, “Don’t let anyone mislead you, for many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah.’ They will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don’t panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won’t follow immediately. Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world. But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come. Then you will be arrested, persecuted, and killed. You will be hated all over the world because you are my followers. And many will turn away from me and betray and hate each other. And many false prophets will appear and will deceive many people. Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come.”

Matthew 24:3-14 NLT

Jesus is describing the End of Times. – Most difficult times.

“A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns. But what if the servant is evil and thinks, ‘My master won’t be back for a while,’ and he begins beating the other servants, partying, and getting drunk? The master will return unannounced and unexpected, and he will cut the servant to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 24:45-51 NLT

We see over time: *“Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. The five who were foolish didn’t take enough olive oil for their lamps, but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.”* **Matthew 25:1-5 NLT**

Wise PREPARATION for the duration of the long night

- The night in this parable is _____
- The extra lamp oil, represents _____

The parable of the talents. Matthew 25:14-15

Jesus is describing the OPPORTUNITY He gives to each person to make an impact.

God gives you and me something valuable from His treasury.

- You have been given _____.
- You have been given the _____ surrounded by half-truths and deceptions.
- You have been given a _____ to share that truth with many others.
- There won't be an equal amount given, but there will be an equal _____.

"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever...?' And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'" Matthew 25:31-37,40 NLT

When I see the confusions and injustices in our world, on what do I focus my EFFORTS?

- Certainly, right a wrong, if it's in your lawful power to do so.
- Also, mainly be about the work of the kingdom.

Challenge:

- Does something in you need to shift from FAD to FAITHFUL?
- Am I prepared to remain faithful until He arrives?
- Am I meeting the opportunities with FAITH or FEAR?
- In the most difficult times where are my efforts?

Homework What Could be Written About You? Winter 2026 | Week 6

Message Date 2/15/2026

MY STORY

- 1) In thinking about Craig's analogy about the bonsai tree - If your life right now were shaped like a bonsai tree, what stage would it be in; wild sapling, slightly shaped, or masterfully formed?
- 2) What's something you once started with great enthusiasm but didn't stick with very long?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME

Please read the following passage and answer the following questions

Matthew 24:3-14

- 1) What does Jesus say will characterize the most difficult times?
- 2) What does it mean to endure faithfully over time?