Jesus' Warning of being Vigilant and Faithful Servants
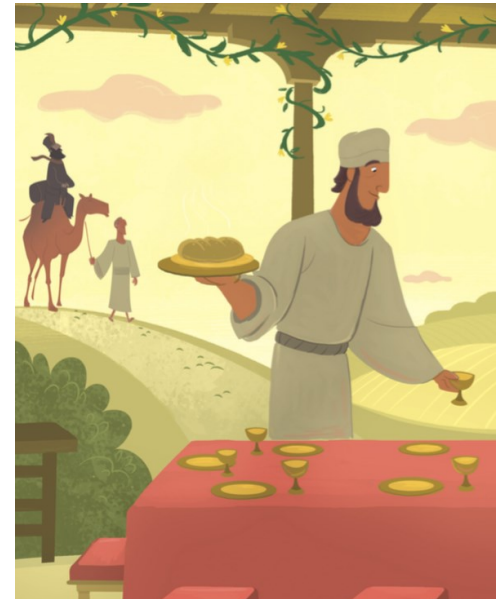
Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your father is pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an **inexhaustible** treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy. for where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

"**Gird** your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds **vigilant** on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Then Peter said, "Lord, is this parable meant for us or for everyone?" And the Lord replied, "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to **distribute** the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so. Truly, I say to you, the master will put the servant in charge of all his **property**. But if that servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed in coming,' and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, to eat and drink and get drunk, then that servant's master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish the servant severely and assign him a place with the unfaithful. That servant who knew his master's will but did not make **preparations** nor act in accord with his will shall be beaten severely; and the servant who was ignorant of his master's will but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating shall be beaten only lightly. Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more."

1. UNDERSTAND IT!

Inexhaustible	**Distribute**
Never ending, endless.	To divide and give out in shares.
Gird	**Property**
secure (a garment or money bag) on the body with a belt or band.	What a person owns.
Vigilant	**Preparation**
Keeping careful watch.	An act of preparing.

2. EXPLORE IT!

In this Gospel, Jesus teaches us that things themselves won't truly make us rich, and He reminds us that what we own in this life we cannot carry into our life after death. To have a life full of meaning, we need to be good servants to God, and to be ready to receive Him at any time. We are reminded by Jesus in this scripture to be good and faithful to Him at all times because we don't know what the future holds. If we keep waiting to do something, we may be too late. A person who is a faithful servant to God will remember it is important to always do what is right, and be the best person even if no one is there holding them accountable at that time.

3. CONNECT IT!

Sometimes it is easy to think that we have the time of the world. Sometimes we get lazy and push things to the last-minute thinking we'll just do it later. When we have this mindset, we push away anything that requires effort and work, and choose to do what's easier at the moment of time. This often can mean pushing aside doing what we know is right and good, because often times doing what's right and good takes more work. We even sometimes push aside what it means to be a faithful servant to God thinking we have time later. But we must remember that being a faithful servant to God doesn't just mean only being good to Him sometimes when we feel like it, but all the time. In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that we need to always be ready and willing to be a faithful servant to Him, especially in the times we don't want to. By always being a faithful servant to God, we will always be ready to meet Him.

4. LIVE IT!

Reliability: Able to be trusted to do or provide what is needed.

A reliable person is a person who does what he/she said. This person is always doing what is right even if nobody there holding him/herself accountable at the time. This week, if you tell mom/dad that you will only watch TV for 15 minutes then keep your word and turn off the TV in 15 minutes even though mom/dad doesn't check-in on you.

[RELIABILITY]

5. REMEMBER IT!

"BLESSED ARE THOSE SERVANTS WHOM THE MASTER FINDS VIGILANT ON HIS ARRIVAL."

(LUKE 12:37)

6. PRAY IT!

Dear God, thank you for always loving us no matter what we do. Thank you for always being there for us. We know sometimes we are not always the best that we can be for You, and we am sorry. We are sorry for all the times we chose to do something easier than being good servants to You. Please help us and teach us more everyday how to be better servants for You. We love You. Amen.

My child has completed the corresponding virtue for this week _____

Parent signature