

Faithful Stewards of God's Household

A PRAYER MEDITATION FROM *AMBASSADORS OF JESUS CHRIST*

"Have you been faithful managers of the wealth God has entrusted to you and of the talents ... and graces you have received to fulfill well the service that has been given to you." (Meditation No. 205:1)

FIRST MOVEMENT

1. **Take a few minutes to recall that you are in the holy presence of God, a presence that not only called you into being but one which also sustains your very existence even today.**

"Yet, in fact, he is not far from any of us, since it is in him that we live, and move, and have our being." (Acts 17:28)

2. **Ask for a clearer understanding of where and how God is inviting you to a fuller and more complete response to his will.**

"Lord, what more must I do?" (Mt 19:20)

SECOND MOVEMENT

3. **Contemplate the Mystery of God's Love at Work in the World**

Read the following passages a few times slowly. What words or phrases attract your attention? Listen to what is being said to you through the passages.

"A man who was going on a journey ... called in his servants and handed his funds over to them according to each one's abilities. To one he disbursed 5,000 silver pieces, to a second 2,000, and to a third 1,000. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received the 5,000 went to invest it and made another 5,000. In the same way, the one who received the 2,000 doubled that figure. The one who received the 1,000 went off instead and dug a hole in the ground, where he buried the master's money. After a long absence, the master of those servants came home and settled accounts with them." (Mt 25:14-19)

"Let your belts be fastened around your waists and your lamps be burning ready. Be like those awaiting their master's return from a wedding, so that when the master arrives and knocks, you will open the door without delay.

It will go well for those servants whom the master finds wide-awake upon returning. I tell you, the master will put on an apron, seat them at table, and proceed to wait on them. Should the master happen to come at midnight or before sunrise and find them prepared, it will go well with them. You know, as well as I, that if the head of the house knew when the thief was coming, they would not be allowed to break into the house. Be on guard, therefore. The son of man will come when you least expect him." (Lk 12:35-40)

4. Reflect on the Mystery of God's Love at Work in Your Own Life

Who are those people (God's dear children; his "wealth"; his "personal property") who have been entrusted to your guidance? How attentive and watchful are you in your care of them?

What are the talents and the graces that have been given to you so that you might fulfill well your ministry (e.g., the gifts of zeal, of teaching, of vigilance, of patience and of self-control)?

Do you eagerly await our Lord's return? Will he, upon his return, say to you, "Well done, my reliable and industrious servant (Mt 25:21). Come, you have my Father's blessing" (Mt 25:34)?

THIRD MOVEMENT

5. Resolve to Be More Open to the Spirit Who Works in and Through You Today

"Name one thing you have that has not been given to you." (Meditation No. 196.3)
So pause now for a few moments and give thanks.

To what better use could you put today the gifts and talents with which God has blessed you for the guidance and well-being of others?

"Since God is the one who has given you the ministry you exercise." (Meditation No. 205.1), ask for the graces necessary to be good and faithful stewards in his divine service.

This prayer meditation is an excerpt from *Ambassadors of Jesus Christ: Prayer Meditations for Christian Educators* (1995) by Brother William Mann, FSC, Brother Henry Dissanayke, FSC, and Brother Isaias Tzegay, FSC. This book contains 35 meditations that invite one to enter into the three movements of Saint John Baptist de La Salle's *Method of Interior Prayer*.