1. **Romans 12:3-8**
* Share a thought or two that comes to mind after hearing Paul’s words here.
* Name some of the types of “gifts’ that God has bestowed on us by “grace”.
* What do you believe God expects us to do with these “gifts”?
* **Matthew 25:14-30**
* In this parable consider the following questions and answer them:

Who might the “master” be?

Who does the “man” represent?

What might the “journey” represent in our Christian life today?

* What does this parable say to you about exercising your “gifts” which were given by the “grace” of God and consider the **footnote** for **Matthew 25:14** too?
* **St. Chrysostom** (347 – 407 A.D.) *Homilies on Matthew 78*

“These parables are like the former parable of the faithful servant, and of him that was ungrateful and devoured his Lord's goods. For there are four in all, in different ways admonishing us about the same things, I mean about diligence in almsgiving, and about helping our neighbor by all means which we are able to use, since it is not possible to be saved in another way. But there He speaks more generally of all assistance which should he rendered to one's neighbor.”

“In the case of the vineyard, he let it out to the farmers and went into a far country. Here he committed to them the talents and took his journey that you might understand his patience and long-suffering. And to me he seems to say these things as an intimation of the resurrection. But here it is no more a vineyard and husbandmen but all farmers. For it is not to rulers only or Jews but to all that he addresses this discourse. And those who bring a return to him confess frankly, both what is their own and what their Master’s. And the one says, “Lord, you gave me five talents,” and the other says, “two,” indicating that from him they received the source of their gain, and they are very thankful and reckon all to him.”

* Share a thought or two about the words of St. Chrysostom.
* **Catechism 790-791, 1936-1937, 2427**
* Please share something that was important to you today.