

Jesus & Money – Monetary Value



Synopsis: Knowing how much money was worth helps us to understand parables and metaphors better. In this lesson, we look at how much various denominations were worth and then look at several scriptures to see if knowing a little more about how much the money in question was worth, makes a difference.

Biblical References (ESV, English Standard Version is used)

Verse	Text
Mar.12:44	For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on
Luke 7:41-43	⁴¹ “A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?” ⁴³ Simon answered, “The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt.” And he said to him, “You have judged rightly.”
Mat 25:14-15	¹⁴ “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants[a] and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents,[b] to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

Questions for Discussion or Journaling

The following questions are perfect for a group discussion. If working individually, these questions are great for journal.

1. Does knowing the relative amount of money being referred to make a difference in your understanding of the scripture?
2. Which is worth more a talent or a mite?
3. Why was the widow’s contribution worth more than the wealthy men who actually gave more?
4. If Jesus is the moneylender who has forgiven out sins, does it matter how much he has forgiven?

5. Now that you know how much a talent is worth, would the parable have a different meaning if the servants received denarii instead of talents?