

**Rev. Thomas Emery**  
***“Jesus Saves for Us to Invest” Matthew 25:14-30***  
**Salem Presbyterian Church**  
**Sunday, November 16, 2014**

In today’s passage, notice, that the third servant who took his master’s gold and buried it in the ground did so because he was afraid. That’s a common experience, fear. I wonder how many of us fail to be the people God has called us to be because we are afraid. Some of us are afraid of what other people will think of us. That often happens to us when we’re young. But it doesn’t stop with our teen years. As we get older, we may give a weak witness to our faith, because we don’t want our friends to think we’re some kind of religious nut.

**TEACHING POINTS**

**Teaching Point One:** *We are accountable to invest what we have to build the Kingdom of God.*

**Teaching Point Two:** *To follow Jesus, you must be a risk taker.*

**Teaching Point Three:** *The day of accountability is coming for what God has given us to invest.*

**THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE**

To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away (Matthew 25:29 NLT).

**ACTION POINT**

This parable does make its point quite forcefully that it is a terrible thing to bury the gifts God has given us and not to use them. There's a familiar spiritual which says, "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine." These ten words are short, but their message is profound. The songwriter's light doesn't sound very big, but it surely sounds important to him, and he plans to use it. Never forget! Ownership of everything is God's. Faithful management is our duty, and the time of judgment is coming!