Gospel Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21 (short version)
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus told his disciples this parable:
"A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one-- to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

"After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'"

1. What words, phrases, thoughts struck you as you read this Gospel and why?

2. What in this passage comforted you? What in this passage challenged you?

3. *To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one--to each according to his ability.* What gifts has God bestowed on me? How can I use these gifts to the best of my ability?

4. *Well done, my good and faithful servant.* How can I serve the Lord more faithfully? What joys and struggles have I experienced in serving the Lord?

5. What is one way that God's grace came to you this past month?