

Matthew
chapter 13
July 19,
2020

Jesus Teaches in Parables

*Memory
Verse*

“But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundred-fold, some sixty, some thirty.” Matthew 13:23

Parables

A parable is a short story used to bring alongside truth. Jesus used these short stories to reveal important truths about the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus often shared about things we know and understand to help explain the things we need to learn. In the four Gospels, Jesus shared 35 parables to help us understand different things about heaven. Parables often use the word “like” to make a comparison between two different things. In this chapter Jesus says seven different times that the “Kingdom of Heaven is like.”

In Chapter 12, we learned that the leaders had very hard hearts and were unwilling to receive what Jesus was telling them. In this chapter, Jesus quotes from the book of Isaiah “Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the hearts of this people have grown dull...” Parables are interesting because they can show us the condition of our own hearts. Jesus lays out great spiritual truths in the parables that He shares. To some people they were and continue to be like finding great treasure. However, to others that are spiritually blind, these parables continue to be frustrating because they do not understand the hidden truth. Jesus said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Just because we don’t understand a parable the first time we read it doesn’t mean that we are spiritually blind. In this chapter we learn that when we don’t understand something that Jesus said, we can go to him, just like His disciples did. When the disciples didn’t understand the parable of the sower, they asked Jesus what it meant. When the disciples didn’t understand the parable of the wheat and the tares, they went to Jesus and asked its meaning. This should be the attitude of all believers. When we read something in the bible that we don’t understand, we can turn to Jesus and ask Him our questions and know that He will answer them.

Prayer:

Jesus, You say that You will give wisdom liberally to those that ask. Some of the things that You say in the Bible are difficult to understand, but I am thankful that I can come to You with my questions and You will never turn me away. Thank You that with every question I ask I am able to draw closer to You. Amen.

Read Matthew Chapter 13 and answer the questions below.

Bible

Questions &

Personal

Application

1) Where are the four different places the seed can fall in the parable of the sower?

Hint: Matthew 13:3-9

2) What do the four different places where the seed can fall represent? What does the seed represent?

Hint: Read Matthew 13:18-23

3) Jesus says the “Kingdom of Heaven is like” seven different times, what are the seven things He compares the kingdom of heaven to?

Hint: Read Matthew 13:24, 31, 33, 44, 45, 47, 52

4) How many times does the word Hear or Hearing appear in this chapter? Why do you think it is important to hear the word of God?

5) Is there anything in your heart that is keeping you from hearing the word of God? If yes, lets pray!

Craft: Sowing Seeds in Eggshells

<https://www.countryfile.com/how-to/outdoor-skills/sow-seeds-in-eggshells/>

