**PARABLES JESUS TOLD**

**INTRODUCTION**

When Jesus wanted to communicate with ordinary men and women, He used parables which are a crucial part of the Bible. Therefore, if we wish to fully understand His message, we must grasp and understand the parables. We should examine the language of the parable as well as the reason for which He chose to employ it.

In the Greek language, a parable is something drawn alongside something else or, more specifically, to use a situation with which one is familiar in everyday life. Another sound definition of a parable is that it is an earthly story with the heavenly meaning.

In the Books of Mathew, Mark and Luke, there are more than 40 parables used by Jesus and I will attempt to illustrate the meaning of these to everyday people like you and me.

The parables were used by Jesus to help us remember the stories and avoid disinterest and ridicule. There was a need to reach the audiences consciences and to challenge their lives. They were part of His strategy for getting under men’s defenses, for winning their hearts and catching their self-satisfied minds off guard.

The first three chapters of this booklet summarize all the parables in the three gospels. In the next chapter, I am classifying the parables into six categories to help the reader relate the parables to the message given.

**BOOK OF MATHEW PARABLES**

**THE LAMP. Mathew 5: 14 – 16, Luke 8: 16 21**

After lighting a lamp, no one covers it with a container but rather, uses it to light the area**.** We are the light of the world.

**Meaning: Nothing hidden will become evident and secrets will not be known. Therefore, be careful how you listen as even what you have can be taken away.**

**We must let our light shine before others, so they see our good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven.**

**SPECK AND THE LOG. Mathew 7:1 – 5**

Do not judge, or you will be judged with the measure you use on others. Jesus asks, why do we look at the speck in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the log in your eye.

**Meaning: Simply do not judge others**.

**THE FOUNDATIONS. Mathew 7: 24 - 27**

Everyone who hears His words and acts upon them is wise, like a man who builds his house on a solid rock foundation. The house withstood the elements.

Anyone who hears these words and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who builds on sand. That house will be destroyed by the elements**.**

**This parable shows:**

**Those who build their lives on His teachings will have security and stability.**

**Those who reject Him will have disaster.**

**The laying of a foundation takes time as the foundation of our spiritual life takes time.**

**NEW CLOTH ON OLD GARMENT. MATHEW 9: 16 – 17**

No one sews a patch on an old garment as it will pull away from the garment. Nor does one pour new wine in an old wine skins as the skin will burst.

**Meaning: We must obey and not wait until it is too late to follow the Word**.

**SOWER AND SOIL Mathew 13:1 -33, Mark 4: 3 – 25, Luke 8: 4 - 15**

The Sower of seeds let some fall beside the road, and the birds ate them. Others fell on rocky places with little soil and promptly sprang up but were scorched by the sun, as there was no root. Others fell among thorns and were choked while others were planted on good soil and yielded a good crop.

**Meaning:**

**When one hears the word which is not understood, the evil one quickly snatches it away. The seed on rocky soil is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, but there is no firm commitment, and the word falls away quickly. The seed planted in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the desire for riches chokes the word. The good soil is the man who understands the word and surrenders himself to bear fruit many times over.**

**TARES AMONG WHEAT. Mathew 13:24**

A man sowed good seed in his field. While he slept, his enemy came in a sowed tare (injurious weed resembling wheat). When the wheat sprung up, the tares were evident, and his slaves queried what he had sown. He explained what happened and suggested that he would let both grow. The reapers would then be instructed to first gather the tares and to burn them.

**Meaning: The man that sows, the good seed is Jesus, and the field is the world. The harvesters of the good seed are angels while the tares are destroyed as will happen to the evil ones at the end of the age. The righteous will shine forth in the Kingdom of their father.**

**KINGDOM OF HEAVEN Mathew 13.31 – 52, Luke 13: 18 – 20, Mark 5: 30 - 32**

The Kingdom of heaven is:

\*Like a mustard seed and is smaller than all other seeds but it grows larger than garden plants that succeed so that the birds rest in the branches.

\* Like leaven which a woman took and hid in three pecks of meal until it was leaven.

\* Like a treasure hidden which a man found and sells all that he has, to buy the field.

\*Like a merchant seeking fine pearls and on finding one pearl of great value, he sold all he had to buy it.

\* Like a dragnet cast into the sea and gathering fish of every kind. When nets were filled, they gathered the good fish and threw away the bad.

**The parable shows Kingdom of Heaven is pictured as treasures.**

**When the Kingdom is found, one must abandon everything we have as the Kingdom will be larger than anything else, and it will serve all needs. It is a hidden treasure. This means that Christ is worth more than anything else. Further, we must relinquish that to give Him ownership of our lives. The angels will come and throw the wicked into a furnace.**

**Every disciple of Christ is like the head of a household who brings forth his treasure.**

**HEART OF MAN. Mathew 15: 10 – 20**

Not what enters the mouth defiles a man but what comes out of their mouth is what defiles them.

**Meaning: It is actions and words uttered by men that defile them not their failure to wash their hands before eating.**

**LOST SHEEP. Mathew 18: 10 –14**

What man, Jesus asks, who has 100 sheep and loses 1, would not leave his 99 to seek the missing 1. When it is found he rejoices with his friends.

**This parable shows:**

**He points out how tirelessly we will search to add to our kingdom. He explains that God rejoices when a sinner repents and joins Him.**

**RIGHTEOUS STEWARD Mathew 18:23 – 35, Luke 16: 1 – 18**

A rich man had a steward who was squandering his possessions. He was challenged by the rich man, and his actions were forgiven. The servant then visited his debtors and would not reduce their debts. The master was not happy and had him tortured until he paid back all he owed. In Luke it shows that he reduced other debts but there is the same meaning.

**Meaning: We need to do what we can for others as we can lose out by pushing the letter of the law.**

**LABORERS IN THE VINEYARD Mathew 20: 1 - 16**

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers. In the 3rd hour, he found some and hired them and agreed the pay rate of 1 Denarius and sent them to the Vineyard to work. In the 6th and 9th hours, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace. He said to them, you also go to the Vineyard and whatever is right, he will give them. About the 11th hour, he went out and found others standing and asked them, why have you been standing there are all day. They replied to him that they had no work offered to them. He offered them work on the same basis.

At the end of the day, he called his foreman, to pay the men beginning with the last hired first and then the others. Each received 1 denarius.

The first hired expected more than the agreed amount. They complained that they had worked much longer hours than the last workers employed but were paid the same. The employer explained that he was not doing any wrong to the first hired as they were paid the agreed amount.

He suggested that they take what is theirs and go away. He also explained that he would do what he wished with his assets but that they were envious.

**This parable shows:**

**Normally, the man last would not be paid the same as those who worked more but, Jesus shows what the Kingdom of Heaven is like.**

**Lessons:**

**Pride has no place in heaven.**

**No mere man can decide for others.**

**God’s rewards are given for handicaps overcome and goals achieved.**

**THE TWO SONS MATHEW 21: 28**

Man had two sons and he asked the first son to work in the vineyard. The son agreed. The other son declined the request and later regretted it.

**Meaning: He compared the acceptance in Heaven of those who did not initially followed John, but changed and followed Him. They will get to heaven before those who did not follow John but came to them by way of righteousness, and they did not feel remorse for their sins.**

**LANDOWNER Mathew 21: 33 – 44, Luke 20: 9 – 18 Mark 12: 1 – 11**

A man planted a vineyard and erected a wall around it and dug a wine press which was rented to others while he went on a journey. At harvest time, he sent his slaves to collect the produce. The vine-growers beat one, killed another and stoned a third. Another group was sent and received the same treatment. He then sent his son, and they killed him as well. The owner then rented the farm to others who shared the crop at harvest time.

**Meaning: The kingdom of God will be given to those who produce and those who do not share will scatter like dust. The Pharisees knew Jesus was talking about them.**

**WEDDING FEAST. Mathew 22: 1 - 14**

A king gave a wedding feast for his son, and he invited guests who were unwilling to accept his invitations. Some even mistreated the slaves who delivered the invitations. The king responded by killing the murderers and set their city on fire.

He then told the slaves to invite all who they encountered to fill the wedding hall.

One man was not dressed in wedding clothes, so he was cast into darkness for many are called but few chosen.

**Meaning: Jesus offered restitution, but many ignored Him. If one is invited to join Him, we must not reject the invitation.**

**THE FIG TREE. Mathew: 24: 32 – 35.**

When the branch is tender and leaves appear, one knows that summer is near. But do we recognize that He is near.

**Meaning: If we do not recognize Him, and we will miss the opportunity, but the words will remain for future generations. At an unknown date there will be the coming of the Son of Man and those who do not follow His teachings will perish.**

**So be ready for that day.**

**FAITHFUL SERVANT. Mathew 24: 45 - 51**

A servant oversees staff during the master’s absence, but evil tells him to beat his servants and eat and drink with drunkards. When the master returns early, he will cut him in pieces and put him with hypocrites.

Mean**ing: We must follow the rules of life whatever we are dealt.**

**TEN VIRGINS Mathew 25: 1 - 13**

Ten virgins go out to meet the bridegroom, 5 with oil in their lamps but the foolish took no oil. They slept while waiting but all arose when he arrived. The prudent would not share their oil. He took the prudent to the wedding feast and when the foolish tried to get his attention, he did not know them.

**Meaning: We must be prepared for His coming and when he arrives that will be too late.**

**THE TALENTS. Mathew 25: 14 – 30**

A man going on a journey, distributed 5 talents to one slave, 2 to another and 1 to the third all according to their ability. The one with 5, traded and earned another 5 as did the one who received 2. But the remaining slave took his 1 and dug it in the ground to protect it.

The master returned and was well pleased with the one who gained 5 more and put him in charge of many things as he did to the one who had 2 talents. He was critical of the one who had 1 talent and called him lazy as he could have put the money in the bank and earned interest. He lost his 1 talent which was given to the slave that had 10.

**Meaning: I find it easier to understand this parable if we consider the talent to be a skill. With that interpretation, one could understand the master being unhappy with the slave who did not use the skills he was given.**

**BOOK OF MARK PARABLES**

**NEW CLOTH AND OLD GARMENT. Mark2: 21- 22**

No one sews a patch on an old garment as it will pull away from the garment. Nor does one pour new wine in an old wine skins as the skin will burst.

**Meaning: We must obey and not wait until it is too late to follow the Word.**

**DIVIDED KINGDOMN. Mark 3: 23 – 29**

How do you cast Satan out. If a kingdom is divided against itself, it cannot stand. Similarly with a house. If Satan opposes itself, it cannot stand. We need to tie up a strong man before entering his house to plunder it. He promises that all sins will be forgiven but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it is an eternal sin.

**Meaning: We must stand together to defeat Satan and all past sins are forgiven but for the eternal sin of blasphemes against the Holy Spirit.**

**THE SOWER AND SOIL. Mark 4: 3 – 25, Luke 8: 4 -15, Mathew 13: 1- 23**

The Sower of seeds let some fall beside the road and the birds ate them, others fell on rocky places with little soil and promptly sprang up but were scorched by the sun as there was no root, others fell among thorns and were choked while others were planted on good soil and yielded a good crop.

**Meaning:**

**When one hears the word which is not understood, the evil one quickly snatches it away. The seed on rocky soil is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy but there is no firm root, and the word falls away quickly. The seed planted in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the desire for riches chokes the word. The good soil is the man who understands the word and surrenders himself to bear fruit many times over.**

**THE LAMP Mark 4: 21 – 25, Mathew 5:14**

After lighting a lamp, no one covers it with a container but rather uses it to light the area**.** We are the light of the world.

**Meaning: Nothing hidden will become evident and secrets will not be known. Therefore, be careful how you listen as even what you have, can be taken away. We, must let our light shine before others, so they see our good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven**

**THE GROWING SEED. Mark 4: 26 – 29**

He explained that the Kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed on the soil and goes to bed at night. The seed spouts up and grows up, firstly, the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head. When the crop permits, it is harvesting time, and the plant is harvested.

**The parable shows:**

**He illustrates how the seed of the word – His Word – grow incredibly because of the power wrapped in them. The seed is needed to awaken the potential awaiting. Every seed is the blueprint of the plant like Jesus’ Word is the essence of life.**

**THE MUSTARD SEED Mark 4: 30 – 32**

The Kingdom of heaven is Like a mustard seed and is smaller than all other seeds, but it grows larger than garden plants that succeed so that the birds rest in the branches. See also Mathew 13: 31 - 52

**The parable shows Kingdom of Heaven is pictured as treasures.**

**When the Kingdom is found, one must abandon everything else, and it will serve all needs.**

**HEART OF MAN. Mark 7: 14 – 23, Mathew 15:10 - 20**

Not what enters the mouth defiles a man but what comes out of their mouth is what defiles them.

**Meaning: It is actions and words uttered by men that defile them not their failure to wash their hands before eating.**

**TENANT FARMERS Mark 12: 1 – 12, Mathew 21: 33 – 44, Luke 20: 9** – 18

A man planted a vineyard and erected a wall around it and dug a wine press which was rented to others while he went on a journey. At harvest time, he sent his slaves to collect the produce. The vine-growers beat one, killed another and stoned a third. Another group was sent and received the same treatment. He then sent his son, and they killed him as well.

**Meaning: The kingdom of God will be given to those who produce and those who do not share will scatter like dust. The Pharisees knew Jesus was talking about them.**

**BUDDING FIG TREE. Mark 13: 28 – 33**

When the branch is tender and leaves appear, one knows that summer is near. But do we recognize that He is near as His words will remain forever while seasons will pass.

**Meaning: If we do not recognize Him, and we will miss the opportunity, but the words will remain for future generations. At an unknown date there will be the coming of the Son of Man and those who do not follow His teachings will perish.**

**So be ready for that day.**

**SERVANTS. Mark 13:34 - 37**

A man going away leaves his house and puts his servants in charge with each one having an assigned task. There is no knowing when the master will return and each one must stay alert.

**Message for us to stay alert and as we do not know when our Master will return.**

**BOOK OF LUKE PARABLES**

**THE TWO DEBTORS LUKE 7: 40**

A moneylender had two debtors, one owed 500 Denarii and the other 50. When they were not able to repay them, he forgave them both. Which will love him more?

**Meaning: The one who forgave the more he loved him more.**

**Similarly, He forgave the one that wiped His feet and kissed them. She was forgiven for many sins while the woman who did less was also forgiven due to her faith.**

**SOWER AND SOIL Luke 8: 4 – 15, Mathew 13:1 – 23, Mark 4, 3-25**

The Sower of seeds let some fall beside the road and the birds ate them, others fell on rocky places with little soil and promptly sprang up but were scorched by the sun as there was no root, others fell among thorns and were choked while others were planted on good soil and yielded a good crop.

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**THE LAMP LUKE 8: 16 – 21**

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**We must let our light shine before others, so they see our good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven**

**GOOD SAMARITAN Luke 10: 29 - 37**

A certain man was going from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers who stripped him and beat him and went off leaving him half dead. By chance a certain priest was going down the same road and he saw him, but he passed on the other side. Likewise, a Levite also came to this place and saw him and passed on the other side. But a certain Samaritan who was on a journey came upon him and when he saw him, he felt compassion and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and one on them. He put him on his own breast and brought him to the innkeeper and said, “take care of him and whatever more you spend when I return, I will repay you”.

Which of the three was the neighbor of this man who was robbed and beaten.

**This parable shows:**

**Jesus expects us to show mercy to others.**

**The meaning of neighborliness being one in need, and importance of true Christian compassion.**

**Jesus was critical of those who did not help others and their indifference to pass by those who are in need.**

**THE FRIEND AT MIDNIGHT Luke 11: 5 - 13**

If you had a friend and you went to him at midnight to borrow bread for visitors, but the friend rejects your request. Even though he rejects your request, with persistence he will help you. He tells us to seek, and it will be found, knock and it will be opened as is promised by Jesus.

**The parable shows: The value of persistent prayer and how God will respond to one who is a son.**

**THE RICH FOOL. Luke 12. 13 – 21**

A man had very productive land but was concerned about his ability to store his crop. He thought he would tear down his barns and build larger ones so he could tell his soul that he laid up for many years.

God told him he was a fool; this very night your soul is required of you and now who will own what is prepared.

**The parable shows: The man who stores all for himself is not rich towards God. He must know that all we have comes from Him. We must all be prepared to share and not be selfish as life is more than just food or clothing. God feeds the birds, and He will provide for His people as well.**

**BUDDING FIG TREE. Luke 13: 6 – 9, Mark 13: 28 - 33**

When the branch is tender and leaves appear, one knows that summer is near. But do we recognize that He is near as His words will remain forever while seasons will pass.

**Meaning: If we do not recognize Him, and we will miss the opportunity, but the words will remain for future generations. At an unknown date there will be the coming of the Son of Man and those who do not follow His teachings will perish.**

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**KINGDOM OF HEAVEN Luke 13: 18 – 20**

The Kingdom of heaven is:

\*Like a mustard seed and is smaller than all other seeds but it grows larger than garden plants and birds rest in the branches.

\* Like leaven which a woman took and hid in three pecks of meal until it was leaven.

\* Like a treasure hidden which a man found and sells all that he has, to buy the field.

\*Like a merchant seeking fine pearls and on finding one pearl of great value, he sold all he had to buy it.

\* Like a dragnet cast into the sea and gathering fish of every kind. When nets were filled, they gathered the good fish and threw away the bad.

See also Mathew 13: 31 – 52 and Mark 5: 30 - 32

**The parable shows Kingdom of Heaven is pictured as treasures.**

**When the Kingdom is found, one must abandon as it will be larger than anything else and it will serve all needs. It is a hidden treasure. This means that Christ is worth more than anything else. Further, we must relinquish that to give Him ownership of our lives. The angels will come and throw the wicked into a furnace.**

**Every disciple of Christ is like the head of a household who brings forth his treasure.**

**GUESTS. Luke 14: 7 – 15**

When invited to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor lest the host asks you to move down to your place. Rather go to the last place and the host will invite you to a better seat.

For a dinner do not invite friends on basis that they will invite you.

For a reception, invite the poor, blind and lame and you will be blessed.

**Meaning: Always humble yourself so you shall be exalted.**

**DINNER. Luke 14: 16 - 24**

A man was giving a big dinner party and he invited many. Excuses were given and this was reported to the master. A head of the household instructed that the poor, crippled, blind and lame should be invited off the street. There was still a need for more and the slave was instructed to fill the room.

**Meaning: We should not decline invitations but treat others like we would like to be treated.**

**THE LOST SHEEP AND LOST** COIN. **Luke15: 4 –7**

What man, Jesus asks, who has 100 sheep and loses 1 would not leave his 99 to seek the missing 1. When it is found he rejoices with his friends. Similarly, if a. woman has 10 coins and loses 1, she will sweep and search until it is found. She will also celebrate with friends when it is found.

**This parable points out how tirelessly we will search to add to our kingdom. He explains that God rejoices when a sinner repents and joins Him.**

**THE PRODIGAL SON Luke 15: 11 - 32**

A certain man had two sons; the younger of them said to his father “Give my share of the estate to me” The father divided the estate and the younger son then, gathered everything he had and went on a journey into a distant country.

There, he squandered the estate with loose living. When he had spent everything, severe famine occurred in that country. He was in great need and went and worked for one of the citizens who sent him to the fields to feed the swine. He was longing to full his stomach with the pods which the swine were eating and no one was giving him anything to eat.

When he came to his senses, he thought, how many of my father’s hired men have more than enough bread but he was dying here of hunger. He thought he would go to his father and say, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, I’m no longer worthy to be called your son, make me one of your hired men.”

He made his way to visit his father. But while he was still a long way from his father’s house, his father saw him and felt compassion for his son. He ran and embraced him and kissed him. The son said his planned statement to his father but the father responded by calling a slave to bring out the best robe and put it on his son and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet and bring the fattened calf. They killed it and ate and were merry for the son who was dead, had come to life again and was found.

The elder son was in the field working and when he approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He summoned one of the servants and asked what all the excitement was. The servant explained that the younger son had returned, and his father was celebrating with a fattened calf because he received him back safe and sound.

The elder son became angry and was not willing to go and join the celebration, despite the father repeated request. He explained how he had been serving his father, but he never celebrated in this manner with the elder son and his friends. The father explained his joy that the youngest had returned from the dead and that the elder had all that was owned by the father.

**This parable clearly shows:**

**God’s love is beyond reason, and He hungers for the return of a sinner.**

**The righteous already have His love.**

**We are not to be self-righteous, nor jealous of our position in His eyes.**

**We are to love as He loves and not have selfish needs.**

**RIGHTEOUS STEWARD Luke 16: 1 – 18, Mathew 18:23 – 35**

A rich man had a steward who was squandering his possessions. He was challenged by the rich man, and his actions were forgiven. The servant then visited his debtors and would not reduce their debts. The master had him tortured until he paid back all he owed. In Luke it shows that he reduced other debts but there is the same meaning.

**Meaning: We need to do what we can for others as we can lose out by pushing the letter of the law.**

**RICH MAN AND LAZARUS. Luke 16: 19 – 31**

A rich man who dressed in fine linen and Lazarus was covered in sores sitting at his gate, hoping to get the crumbs from the table. Both men died and Lazarus was accepted by Abraham. The rich man asked for Lazarus to give him water. Abraham explained how the positions were reversed. The rich man begged that Abraham warn his brothers not to make the mistakes he had made. Abraham referred him to Moses and the prophets who preached the Word.

**Meaning: To remind us to follow the Word and care for the poor and less fortunate or pay the price on judgement day.**

**PERSISTENT WIDOW. Luke 18 1 - 8**

A city judge did not fear God and did not respect man. A woman kept asking him for legal protection. He thought he might give her protection to stop her bothering him. He thought he would receive justice from God.

**Meaning: We must treat others fairly as we will all be judged in due course.**

**THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN. Luke 18: 9 - 17**

He told this parable to people that were confident and self-righteous interested in themselves and viewed others in contempt.

Two men went to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-gatherer. The Pharisee stood and was praying to himself,” God, I thank Thee that I am not like the other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers or even this tax- gatherer. He explained that he fasted twice a week and paid his tithes on all.

he received. The tax-gatherer was unwilling to lift his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast saying, “God be merciful to me, the sinner”.

**This parable shows:**

**This man was justified while the Pharisee needed to be humbled to be exalted.**

**Humility is the lesson as the Pharisee’s pride in his goodness, blocked out God. He did not look at himself to know he was not like God.**

**It is hard to be humble, but Jesus wants those who love Him to defy their own pride.**

**MONEY USAGE. Luke 19: 11 – 27.**

. A man going on a journey, distributed 5 minas to one slave, 2 to another and 1 to the third all according to their ability. The one with 5, traded and earned another 5 as did the one who received 2. But the remaining slave took his 1 and dug it in the ground to protect it.

The master returned and was well pleased with the one who gained 5 more and put him in charge of many things as he did to the one who had 2 minas. He was critical of the one who had 1 talent and called him lazy as he could have put the money in the bank and earned interest. He lost his 1 talent which was given to the slave that had 10.

Compare this parable to Mathew 25: 14- 30 where the slaves received talents not “minas” as per Luke.

**Meaning: I find it easier to understand this parable if we consider the mina or talent to be a skill. With that interpretation, one could understand the master being unhappy with the slave who did not use the skills he was given.**

**TENANT FARMERS Luke 20: 9 – 18, Mathew 21:33-44, Mark 12: 1- 11**

A man planted a vineyard and erected a wall around it and dug a wine press which was rented to others while he went on a journey. At harvest time, he sent his slaves to collect the produce. The vine-growers beat one, killed another and stoned a third. Another group was sent and received the same treatment. He then sent his son, and they killed him as well.

**Meaning: The kingdom of God will be given to those who produce and those who do not share will scatter like dust. The Pharisees knew Jesus was talking about them.**

PARABLES BY MESSAGE GIVEN

1. FOREGIVENESS
   1. Righteous Steward. Mathew 18:23 - 35

The servant squandered the masters’ possessions but when he was asked to be supportive of his debtors, he refused.

1.2. Two debtors Luke 7:40

With faith we are all forgiven but the more we do, the more forgiveness we earn.

1.2 Prodigal Son. Luke 15: 11- 32

This offers a message of redemption and unconditional love by the Father. God’s love is beyond reason and the elder son is taught not to be self-righteous.

1. LOVE

2.1 We pay for what we want. Mathew 13: 31-52, Luke 13:18-20

Any treasure identified is like Christ, worth everything we have. We must give Him ownership of our lives.

2.2 Lost sheep and coin Mathew 18:10-14, Luke 15:4 - 1

This shows the way Jesus believes we should act to add to the Kingdom.

2.3. Friend at midnight. Luke11: 5- 13

He encourages us to bring our requests to God because he loves us so much.

1. STEWARDSHIP

3.1 Heart of Man. Mathew 15: 10 – 20, Mark 7:14-23

Man is not defiled by what he eats but he is responsible for what he says.

3.2. The Rich Fool. Luke12:13- 21

The man who stores for himself, is not rich towards God.

3.3 The Talents Mathew 25: 14-30, Luke 19: 11-27

Whatever assets we have we must use them for the right cause and not let them become useless.

1. SPREADING THE GOSPELL

4.1. The Lamp. Mathew 5.14, Mark4: 21-25, Luke 8:16 - 21

We must let our lamp shine on others, so our good deeds glorify our Father in Heaven.

4.2 The Foundations. Mathew 7:24 – 27

Our spiritual life takes time but must be developed on a sound foundation.

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4.3 Sower and soil. Mathew 13: 1-23, Mark 4: 3-20, Luke8:4- 15

WE must understand the Word and surrenders oneself to spread the Word to others.

4.4 The fig tree Mathew 24: 32- 35, Luke 13: 6 – 9

We must recognize Him so be ready for Him and spread the Gospel.

4.5. Faithful servant. Mathew 24: 45-51. Mark13: 34-37

We must follow the rules of life whatever we are dealt.

5 CHRISTIAN LIVING

5.1 Divided Kingdom Mark 3: 23-29

We must stand together to defeat Satan.

5.2. Growing seed. Mark 4:26 – 29.

His Word grows and because of the power in them. Every seed of a plant is like Jesus’ word and is the essence of life.

5.3 Log in the eye Mathew 7:1- 5,

Do not judge others as you may have bigger problems.

5.4 New cloth old garment. Mathew 9:16-17, Mark 2: 21- 22

We must obey and not wait until it is too late.

5.5. Laborers in the vineyard. Mathew 20: 1- 16

No man can decide for others and there is no place for pride. Gods’ awards are given for handicaps overcome.

5.6. Two sons. Mathew 21: 28-32

We must follow the Word and our actions are most important.

5.7 Good Samaritan. Luke 10: 29 – 37

Essence of Christianity is loving ones’ neighbor more than oneself.

5.8. Guests. Luke 14: 7 – 15

Humble oneself but not pushing to get the best seat or recognition so you can be exalted.

5.9 Persistent widow Luke 18: 1- 8

We must treat others fairly as we will be judged.

5.10 Rich man and Lazarus. Luke 16: 19 -31

Follow the Word and care for the poor or one will pay the price on judgement day.

5.11. Pharisee and tax collector. Luke 18: 9 – 17

The Pharisee’s pride blocked out God and we must be humble.

1. JESUS WILL RETURN
   1. Tares in the wheat Mathew 13: 24 – 30

Jesus sows the good seed while evil, sows the tares. When Jesus comes, He will ensure that the faithful enjoy His love.

* 1. The Budding fig tree Mark 13: 28 -33, Luke 13: 6 - 9

Unlike a tree which knows when summer is near, we must be ready for the day that He will return.

* 1. The tenant farmers Mathew 21:33-44, Mark12:1–12, Luke 20:9-18

We must all share what we produce.

The Pharisees knew He was talking about them, and we must be ready when He returns.

* 1. The wedding feast. Mathew 22: 1 – **14**

Jesus offered restitution, but many ignored Him. If one is invited to join Him, we must not reject the invitation.

6.5 The Ten Virgins Mathew 25: 1 -13

We must be prepared for His coming as

it will be late when he already arrived.

6.6 Faithful and wicked servants. Mark 13: 34 – 37

We do not know when our Master will return.

6.7. Pharisee and the Publican. Luke 18: 9 – 17

We must be humble and not block out His word .

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