

# 1

## The Wise and Foolish Builders

Matthew 7: 24-29; Luke 6: 47-49

**Memory verse:** “Everyone then who hears these words of Mine and does them will be like a wise man...” Matthew 7: 24

(Jesus often told parables to His followers to help them understand what He was teaching them. Parables are stories that teach a spiritual lesson by comparing a spiritual thing to something earthly that the people understood. Parables teach us about things like the Kingdom of Heaven, lost people and repentance, love, forgiveness, and the Second Coming of Jesus on the Judgment Day.)

“Everyone then who hears these words of Mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” The book of Luke says that he dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. (A foundation is the base or bottom support on which a house is built.)

“And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded (built) on the rock.” Luke says the house was well built.

“And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.” Luke says he built a house without a foundation. “And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

(This parable was part of Jesus’ teachings which are called the Sermon on the Mount.) “And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at His teaching, for He was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.” (This means that the people were amazed because Jesus taught like a person who had the power to command people to do things.)

**Lessons to Learn:** We are wise when we hear the word of God and obey it. We are foolish when we hear the word of God and disobey it.

We should always obey all that God wants us to do.

Because Jesus is our God and Lord, He has the authority (power) to command us to do things.

Because Jesus is totally good, He will only command what is best for us.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus told stories to entertain people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. A house needs a good foundation to be strong.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Sand is a strong place on which to build a house.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Jesus taught with authority (power).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The same things happened to both houses, but only one house fell.

**Short Answer:**

- 6. Where did the wise man build his house? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Where did the foolish man build his house? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8. A wise man hears God's word and \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. Why were the people amazed at Jesus' teaching? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 10. This parable compares building a strong house with \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' words.
- 11. The parable also compares building a house that will fall to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' words, but \_\_\_\_\_.

continued

**Remember this:**

12. What is a parable?

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13. Since Jesus used this parable, do you think the people understood how to build strong houses?

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14. Does this parable help you remember what Jesus was teaching?

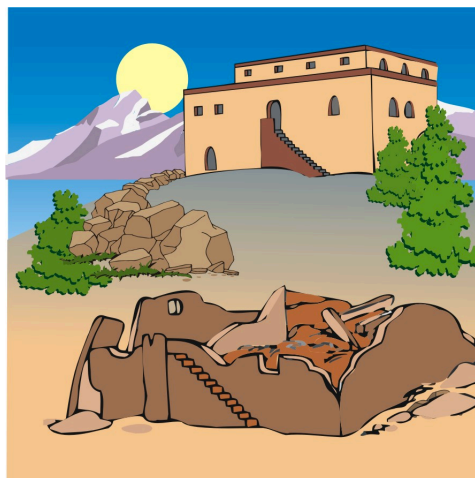
Parables are easy to remember and easy to share with other people, and people who want to learn God's word will understand what Jesus was teaching.

15. How was Jesus' teaching different from the rulers and scribes' teaching? Hint: It amazed the people because...

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16. Why does Jesus have power to command people (authority)?

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## 2

# Forgiving Debts

Luke 7: 41-48

**Memory verse:** “Her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much.” Luke 7: 47

(Jesus told this parable after Mary , Lazarus’ sister, had washed His feet and dried them with her hair.) And Simon thought to himself, “This man, if He were a prophet, would have known who and what kind of woman this is that touches Him: for she is a sinner.”

And Jesus answering said unto him, “Simon, I have something to say unto you.”

And he said, “Say it, Teacher.”

“A certain moneylender had two debtors (people who owed him money). One owed five hundred denarii,(small Roman silver coin) and the other fifty denarii. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?”

Simon answered, “The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt.”

And He said to him, “You have judged rightly.”

Then turning toward the woman He said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss My feet. (She did not stop kissing His feet.) You did not anoint My head with oil, but she has anointed My feet with ointment (something rubbed on the skin). Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.”

And He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” Then those who were at table with Him began to say among themselves, “Who is this, who even forgives sins?” And He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

### **Lessons to Learn:**

Jesus used a parable about people who owed money to teach a lesson about people who were sinners.

Mary was a sinner, but Jesus forgave her sins because she loved Jesus very much.

Jesus (God) can forgive people of many sins or of few sins, but the people who had many sins will love Him more because they had a larger debt to Him.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Mary was a sinner, but Simon was not.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Jesus knew what Simon was thinking to himself.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The parable was about cancelling the debt of two people who owed money.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. We do not owe God a debt for anything He has done for us.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Only God (the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit) can forgive sins.

**Short Answer:**

6. What did Simon think to himself when he saw Mary wiping Jesus' feet?

7. In the parable, how much money did each person owe? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Whom did Simon and Jesus say would love the moneylender more? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What did Jesus say about the amount of Mary's sins? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What had Mary done which showed her great love for Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. We owe God for many things, but especially for our sins. Can we pay our debt to God by ourselves?

12. Romans 3: 23 says \_\_\_\_\_

**“For \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_, and come short of the glory of \_\_\_\_\_.”**

So each person should be thinking about his own sins first, knowing that he is a sinner, rather than pointing at someone else.

13. So, if we all sin, how can we have our sins forgiven (the debt cancelled)?

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Which person understood the debt of sin that was owed to Jesus? How do you know?

\_\_\_\_\_

15. Besides asking Jesus to come to his house, had Simon done very much to show that he loved Jesus?

Can we say that we love someone without doing things for that person?

16. In this parable, people owing money to a moneylender are compared to people owing \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 3

## The Rich Fool

Luke 12: 16-21

**Memory verse:** So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” Luke 12: 21

And He (Jesus) said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance (large amounts) of his possessions.” (Covetousness is strongly wanting something you do not have and especially something that belongs to someone else. It is greediness and the desire to put riches first in one’s life.)

And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully (produced many crops), and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample (plenty of) goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’”

But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

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This parable does not teach that it is wrong to be rich. Many of God’s people have been rich. Some examples are Abraham, Jacob, Solomon, and Job. But this parable shows us that we must use our wealth correctly. People who are rich must not think only about what they can do for themselves. And most of us are rich. We need to think about helping God’s church spread the gospel. We need to help poor people as much as we are able, especially other Christians. We need to be thinking about how to use our wealth to help others.

The rich fool did not think about the fact that he might die at any time. He just thought he would use his riches for pleasure and “relax, eat, drink, be merry.” Because he did not put God first, this man was spiritually poor.

**Lesson to learn:** We must put God and spiritual things first. We have to remember that everything we have comes from God and belongs to Him.

We must always be thankful to God for the things we have.  
God expects us to use the things we have to do good to other people, and we should think of other people before ourselves.  
It is not wrong to be rich, but it is wrong to use our riches just for ourselves.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The man's land grew a large amount of crops and he had no place to put them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The man thanked God for the crops that he had.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The man was just going to store up all the crops for his own use.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The man had many years to enjoy his riches.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The man was rich in things and poor toward God.

**Short Answer:**

6. What is covetousness? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Jesus said, "...for one's life does not consist in the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_."

8. When the man had large crops, he said, "I will \_\_\_\_\_"

9. What would the man say to his soul when his crops were stored?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. What did God say would happen that night?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Remember this:**

11. Name some of God's people who were rich. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Who is the real owner of all the things we have? \_\_\_\_\_

13. What are some of the things we should be doing with the riches (money) that we have?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Read I Thessalonians 5: 18, and fill in the blanks.

**“In \_\_\_\_\_ give \_\_\_\_\_;**

**for this is \_\_\_\_\_ will for you in Christ Jesus.”**

15. Read Ephesians 5: 20, and fill in the blanks.

**“Giving thanks \_\_\_\_\_ and for \_\_\_\_\_**

**to God the \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_.”**

16. Match these in the order of importance.

Most important

Yourself

Second

God

Least important

Others

## 4

# The Faithful and Wise Servant

Luke 12:35-48

**Memory verse:** “Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes.” Luke 12: 37

Jesus said, “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch (9 p.m. to 12 a.m.), or in the third (12 a.m. to 3 a.m.), and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!

But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?”

And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will set him over all his possessions (things that he owns). But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful. And that servant who knew his master's will but did not get ready or act according to his will, will receive a severe beating.

But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating. Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.

**Lessons to Learn:** We must be ready for Christ to come at any time. Our master, Jesus, will reward us if we have done good deeds and punish us if we have done bad deeds. The more that God has given us, the more he will expect from us.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In this parable, Jesus is like the master who has gone and may come back at any time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. It doesn't matter what the servants do when the master is away.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The wise servant will do the job his master gave him to do.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. We don't know when Christ will come again.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. People who knew to do good but didn't do it will receive a worse punishment than people who didn't know to do good.

**Short answer:**

- 6. Jesus said, "Stay dressed for \_\_\_\_\_ and keep your \_\_\_\_\_ burning, and be like men who are \_\_\_\_\_ for their \_\_\_\_\_ to come home."
- 7. Which servants are blessed? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. If the master had known \_\_\_\_\_ he would not have let \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. Why must we be ready like the servants? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Will there be a difference between the punishment for people who know God's will but don't do it and people who don't know God's will and don't do it?

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11. Which people will have the worst punishment? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Remember this:**

12. What part of the time must we be ready ("awake") for Christ's coming?

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13. This parable shows us four kinds of servants. Circle the one that we should be.

- a) One who knows what he should do, and does the right thing.
- b) One who knows what he should do, but does the wrong thing.
- c) One who knows what he should do, but doesn't do anything.
- d) One who does not know what he should do, and does the wrong thing

14. Why would the one who knows what he should do, but does the wrong thing be punished more than the one who did not know what he should do?

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15. Notice that servants have to be busy doing the right thing. What are some things you know that you should be doing to obey God?

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## 5

### Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13: 3-8, 18-23; Mark 4: 3-8, 14-20; Luke 8: 5-8, 11-15

**Memory verse:** “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.”

Luke 8: 11

And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to Him, He said in a parable, “A sower (a person planting seeds) went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock where it did not have much soil, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

And when His disciples asked Him what this parable meant, He said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’”

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing (trials, temptations) fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life; and their fruit does not mature (get ripe). As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

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We might summarize the parable this way: Some people do not understand or believe the word of God. Then the devil comes and takes away the seed. This is like the seed that fell by the roadside.

Other people hear the word of God, believe it, and start to obey it. But when anything bad happens, they stop obeying God. They are like the plants growing in the rocks.

Then there are people who hear and obey the word of God, but let the cares of the world – their job, their play, or taking care of their things – choke out the word. They stop obeying God. They are like the plants killed by the thorns.

But some people are like the good ground. They hear the word of God and understand it. They obey God and they grow. They continue to do more and more good things for God. Some people bear a hundred times the fruit from the seed, some people bear sixty times the fruit, and some thirty times the fruit.

Of course, we want to be like the good ground. If we hear God’s word and do it, we will bear good fruit for Him.

**Lessons to Learn:** When the word of God is preached, many kinds of people hear it.

We want to be the kind of people with the right heart, who hear God’s word and obey it all our lives.

It is the responsibility of the one who hears the word to be sure he has the right heart.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The same seed (word) was sown on all four types of soil.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Two of the soils were good.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The devil tries to take the word away from people so they do not believe it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. People with honest and good hearts will hold on to the word of God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. It is the sower’s (preacher’s) responsibility to make the seed (word) grow.

**Short answer:**

- 6. List the four kinds of soil. \_\_\_\_\_
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7. What happened to the seed that fell along the path?

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8. What happened to the seed that fell on the rocky ground?

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9. What happened to the seed that fell among the thorns?

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10. What happened to the seed on the good ground?

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**Remember this:**

11. Match the things that are compared to each other in this parable.

**Sower**

**The devil taking away the word.**

**Seed**

**The hearts of the people who hear.**

**Soil (ground)**

**Someone preaching the word.**

**Thorns**

**The word of God.**

**Birds**

**The cares (concerns) of the world.**

12. Which ground is the one compared to people who hear the word, believe for a while, but fall away in times of trials and temptations?

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13. Do all people with good hearts bear the same amount of fruit? Explain.

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14. This parable shows that people have to

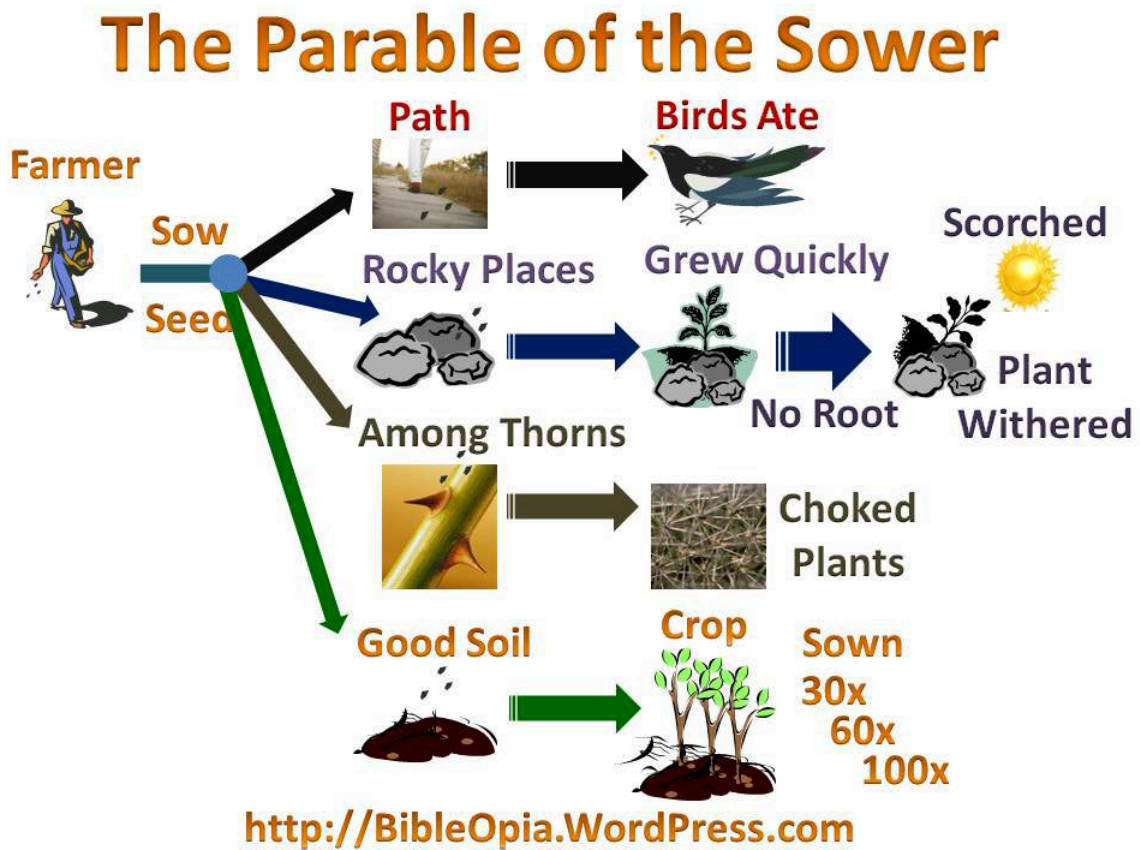
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the word and \_\_\_\_\_ it to bear fruit.

15. Some people did not want to believe what Jesus taught. He said that

‘seeing they may not \_\_\_\_\_, and hearing they may not

\_\_\_\_\_.’ This is a quote from  
Isaiah 6: 9.





## 6

# Weeds (Tares) Among Wheat

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

**Memory verse:** “Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.” Matthew 13: 43

Jesus put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds (tares) among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?”

He said to them, “An enemy has done this.”

So the servants said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?”

But he said, “No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, ‘Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”

He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the world. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth (grinding the teeth together). Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

**Lessons to Learn:** This parable teaches us something about the world.

In the world there are Christians, but there are evil people, too. Sometimes it is hard to tell which people are evil because some people act

good, but really are not. Or they say that they are teaching God's word, but they are teaching something false.

Christians and evil people will live in the world together until the Judgment Day when the evil people will be burned with fire.

After the Judgment Day, Christians will be in heaven with the Father.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In this parable, the enemy is the devil.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The servants pulled up the weeds when they saw them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The field where the good seed and the weeds were is the world.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. If the weeds were pulled up before the harvest, the good plants might have been uprooted (torn out of the ground), too.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. This parable tells us what will happen to sinners and to Christians.

**Short Answer:**

6. When the plants grew up and bore grain, the servants found \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

7. Until when would the wheat and the weeds grow together?  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. What would happen to the weeds at harvest time?  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. What would happen to the wheat at harvest time?  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. What does weeping and gnashing of teeth mean?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. Match the things from the parable to their spiritual meaning. Look back to Jesus' explanation to help you.

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| _____ 1. The man who sowed the good seed | a. The devil                  |
| _____ 2. The good seed                   | b. The sons of the wicked one |
| _____ 3. The field                       | c. The end of the world       |
| _____ 4. The weeds (tares)               | d. The angels                 |
| _____ 5. The enemy                       | e. The Son of Man             |
| _____ 6. The harvest                     | f. The sons of the kingdom    |
| _____ 7. The harvesters                  | g. The world                  |

12. These weeds (tares) looked like the wheat until the wheat grain grew out on the top of the wheat plant. Then the plants were big and the weeds could not be pulled up or what would happen to the wheat?

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13. Jesus is the Son of God, and in this parable He is called the Son of Man. Why can He be called the Son of Man, too?

\_\_\_\_\_

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14. Finish the statement Jesus used several times when He told parables.

“He who has \_\_\_\_\_, let him \_\_\_\_\_.”



Matthew 13:43

## 7

# Three Parables About the Kingdom of God

Matthew 13: 31-33; Mark 4: 26-32; Luke 13: 18-21

**Memory verse:** “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field.” Matthew 13: 31

### The Parable of the Growing Seed

And He (Jesus) said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

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A person who plants the seed of God’s kingdom must be patient and wait for the seed to grow. God is the one who makes the seed grow. The seed is the word of God that will grow inside good hearts. People who obey God are the harvest.

### The Parable of the Mustard Seed

And He said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables He spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to His own disciples he explained everything

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The tiny mustard seed grows into a tree that can be up to twelve feet tall. God’s kingdom would start small and spread into the whole world.

### The Parable of the Leaven

And again He said, “To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened.”

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Leaven is something that is added to dough to make it rise. Usually it is yeast. Just a little yeast added to dough will make it change.

**Lessons to Learn:** All these parables show how the Kingdom of God would start small and grow very large.  
God's Kingdom would be a big influence in the world.  
When the seed is planted, people need to believe it, obey it, and grow as Christians.  
Something great was going to come from small beginnings.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The seed that grows is like the word of God growing and making Christians.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The man who plants the seed is the only one responsible for making it grow.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The mustard seed grows into a little bush.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Jesus explained the parable to his apostles.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. A little leaven (yeast) makes the whole dough rise.

**Short Answer:**

6. Name the three things that Jesus said were like the Kingdom of God.

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7. What is the harvest in the first parable?

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8. Even though the mustard seed is very small, how big will its tree grow?

9. Who were the only people to whom Jesus explained the parables?

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10. In your own words, what is the lesson of each of these parables?

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**Remember this:**

11. The apostle Paul said, “A little \_\_\_\_\_ leavens the whole \_\_\_\_\_.” Galatians 5: 9

12. God’s word is powerful. Does God’s word continue to save people today? \_\_\_\_\_ -All over the world? \_\_\_\_\_

13. The apostle Paul also taught about how preaching God’s word was like planting. Fill in the blanks.

“I \_\_\_\_\_, Apollos \_\_\_\_\_; but God gave the \_\_\_\_\_.” I Corinthians 3: 6

14. In your own words, what is a parable? \_\_\_\_\_

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## 8

# More Parables About the Kingdom

Matthew 13: 44-46

**Memory verse:** “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”  
Matthew 6: 33

### The Parable of the Hidden Treasure

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”

### The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant (seller) in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

### The Parable of the Net

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous (good) and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping (crying) and gnashing (grinding) of teeth.”

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Preaching the gospel gathers in all kinds of people. Remember the Parable of the Sower and the rocky soil and thorny soil. Some people hear the word, but never really obey and grow as Christians. Some people never really repent of their sins, and other people let the concerns of the world keep them from continuing to obey God.

**Lessons to Learn:** Two of these parables tell us about how valuable the kingdom of heaven is.

The kingdom of heaven is the church.  
Preaching the gospel draws in many people, but not all of them are obedient Christians.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In two parables the kingdom of heaven is compared to valuable things.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The man who found the treasure sold some of his own things to buy the field with the treasure.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The merchant (seller) just happened to find a pearl of great price on accident.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The merchant was looking for fine pearls.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. On the Judgment Day, the evil people will be separated from the righteous (good) people.

**Short Answer:**

6. Where did the man find the treasure? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What two things did the man do after he found the treasure? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What was the merchant doing when he found the pearl of great price?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What did the merchant do so he could buy the pearl of great price?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. What did the net do in the third parable?

\_\_\_\_\_

11. What happened when the net was pulled up on shore?



**Remember this:**

12. How did the man feel when he found the treasure? \_\_\_\_\_

13. So, how should people feel when they find the church or kingdom of heaven?

14. In the Parable of the Net, who will separate the evil people from the righteous people?

15. What are we supposed to be seeking?

16. Read Matthew 6: 20 and fill in the blanks.

**“Lay up for yourselves \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_, where neither moth nor rust \_\_\_\_\_ and where \_\_\_\_\_ do not break in and \_\_\_\_\_. For where your \_\_\_\_\_ is, there your \_\_\_\_\_ will be also.”**



# 9

## The Good Shepherd

John 10: 1-18, 25-30

Psalm 23

**Memory verse:** “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. (need anything)” Psalm 23: 1

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold (a pen for sheep) by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep...The sheep hear his voice, and he calls His own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee (run away) from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold (pen for sheep). I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

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In this parable, Jesus was teaching people how He, the Good Shepherd takes care of us and protects us like sheep. But, Jesus is better than any other shepherd because He knows exactly what we need, and He can give eternal life in heaven.

**Lessons to Learn:** People are like sheep and need someone to lead them.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we should follow Him.  
We should not listen to wicked people who try to lead us another way.  
Jesus knows His people (sheep) so well that He calls them by name.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. This parable compares Jesus' care for us to a shepherd's care for his sheep.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. A thief and a robber enters through the door to get the sheep.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The sheep know the shepherd's voice and follow him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Someone who is not the real shepherd will run away and leave the sheep when there is danger. (a wolf coming)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Everyone understood what Jesus was saying.

**Short Answer:**

6. What shows how well the shepherd knows his sheep? "He calls His own sheep \_\_\_\_\_."

7. Why do the shepherd's sheep follow him and not someone else? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Jesus also said, "I am the \_\_\_\_\_. If anyone enters by \_\_\_\_\_, he will be \_\_\_\_\_."

9. If someone is not the real shepherd, what does he do when he sees a wolf?  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. What would the Good Shepherd lay down for His sheep?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. Why did the Good Shepherd (Jesus) come? \_\_\_\_\_

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12. Jesus said, “And I have other sheep that are not of this fold (pen for sheep). I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.” There would be people who were not Jews who would be saved, too. Why is this important to us? \_\_\_\_\_

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13. Psalm 23 says: “The \_\_\_\_\_ is my \_\_\_\_\_.”

14. Below are some things that a shepherd does for his sheep. Circle all the things below which are things that Jesus (God) does for His people.

**Gives food**

**Gives water**

**Leads them on a safe path**

**Protects them from danger**

**Loves them**

**Knows what they need**

**Helps and comforts them when they are hurt**

**Wants to find the one who is lost**

**Calls them to follow him**

**Gives them everything they need.**



# 10

## The Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18: 21-35

**Memory verse:** “Our Father in heaven,... forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.” Matthew 6: 9, 12  
\*\*(A debt is something owed to another person.)

Then Peter came up and said to Him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”

Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. (He wanted to collect the money that the servants owed him.) When he began to settle, one man was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents (a large amount of money). And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring (begging) him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.

But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii (a much smaller amount of money), and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with (begged) him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.

When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed (upset), and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

**Lessons to Learn:** Mercy is compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom you had the power to punish.

God forgives us a great debt of our sins when we obey Him and repent of our sins.

If we want God to forgive us, we must forgive people who sin against us and repent of their sin.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus said that a person should forgive another person seven times.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The man who owed ten thousand talents could not pay the money he owed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The king forgave the servant of the large amount of money he owed the king.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The two servants owed the same amount of money.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. God will punish people who do not forgive other people who repent of their sins.

**Short Answer:**

6. How much did the first servant owe? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What did the king want to do to the servant when he could not pay his debt?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. "Out of \_\_\_\_\_ for him, the master of that servant \_\_\_\_\_

him and \_\_\_\_\_ him the debt." Matthew 18: 27

9. How much did the second servant owe the first servant? \_\_\_\_\_

10. How did the first servant treat the one who owed him money?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. In this parable, the first servant owed ten thousand talents, and each talent was worth 6000 days of pay. So the first servant would have to work 60,000,000 days to pay his debt. This (large, small) amount is compared to the (large, small) amount we owe God for His grace to us.

12. The second servant owed a hundred denarii, and each denarius was one day's pay. The second servant would have to work 100 days to pay his debt. This (large, small) amount is compared to the (large, small) amount that other people owe us.

13. Fill in the blanks. When Jesus was teaching His apostles to pray, He said,

“For if you \_\_\_\_\_ others for their \_\_\_\_\_  
(sins), your \_\_\_\_\_ will also  
\_\_\_\_\_ you. But if you do not \_\_\_\_\_ others,  
then your \_\_\_\_\_ will not \_\_\_\_\_ your  
transgressions (sins).” Matthew 6: 14

14. Did Jesus mean that we should stop forgiving after 77 times? \_\_\_\_\_

15. The Bible says we are to forgive as God forgives. God forgives us  
when we \_\_\_\_\_. (stop doing evil, say we are sorry  
and ask for forgiveness, and start doing good again.)



# 11

## The Good Samaritan

Luke 10: 25- 37

**Memory verse:** “You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself.” Luke 10: 27

And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

And He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?”

And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.”

And He said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.”

But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion (care or concern), and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.’

Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ hands?”

And he said, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do the same.”

**Lesson to learn:** The priest and the Levite did not love the hurt man because they did not help him.



The Samaritan was a good neighbor and helped the hurt man. He treated him like he would want to be treated.  
We show love by what we do. Love is always active and doing.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. A lawyer wanted to test Jesus by asking Him a question.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. It would be correct to say that we must love God with our whole self.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Jesus answered the lawyer with a parable that showed who a neighbor is.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The priest knew God’s word, so he helped the man who was beaten as soon as he saw him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Two men who saw the man who was beaten went closer to see what was wrong.

**Short Answer:**

6. Fill in the blank with what the lawyer said.

“You shall love the \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ with all your \_\_\_\_\_, and with all your \_\_\_\_\_, and with all your \_\_\_\_\_, and with all your \_\_\_\_\_; and your neighbor as \_\_\_\_\_.” Luke 10: 27

7. In the parable, how did the man get hurt? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Who came by first, and what did he do? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Who was the second man who came by, and what did he do? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Who was the third man who came by, and what did he feel when he saw the man who had been beaten?

\_\_\_\_\_

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11. Finish the statements that tells what the Samaritan did for the man who needed help.

(1). Came to him and \_\_\_\_\_ up his \_\_\_\_\_, pouring oil and wine on them.

(2). He put him on his own \_\_\_\_\_, and brought him to an \_\_\_\_\_ and took care of him.

(3). He gave \_\_\_\_\_ to the innkeeper and asked him to take care of the man; and he offered to \_\_\_\_\_ the innkeeper if he spent more.

**Remember this:**

12. Which one of the men was a real neighbor? \_\_\_\_\_

13. The lawyer said that man who was the neighbor showed \_\_\_\_\_ to the man who was beaten by robbers. (The word in the blank means compassion or pity.)

14. Jews did not like Samaritans because they were part Jew and part Gentile. In this parable, Jesus said the Samaritan was a good neighbor, but the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ who were servants of God did not help the man when they saw his need and they could have helped him.

15. Should we help only the people we like? \_\_\_\_\_

# 12

## Parable of the Wedding Feast

Luke 14: 7-14

**Memory verse:** “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 14: 11

Now He (Jesus) told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor (the best place that is for respected people), lest someone more distinguished (more worthy of respect) than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.

But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself (tries to raise himself up in importance) will be humbled (lowered in importance), and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Jesus said also to the man who had invited Him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

**Lessons to Learn:** We should think of ourselves less than we think of others.

We should not be trying to be the most important person around other people.

We should not be doing things with the idea that we will be repaid for them. God will exalt (raise up) people who are humble.

**True or False:**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus noticed the people trying to sit in the best places, so he told this parable.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. You should only do things for people who can do things for you, too.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. If you try to take the seat for important people, someone might come and ask you to move and give the seat to someone more important.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. It would be shameful to take the lowest seat.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. More distinguished means more worthy of respect.

**Short Answer:**

6. What did Jesus say that people should not do when they are invited to a wedding feast?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What might happen if a person sits in the best seat?

8. What might happen if a person sits in the lowest or least important seat?

9. What kind of people did Jesus say a person should invite to their wedding feast?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Why did Jesus say to invite that kind of person?

**Remember this:**

11. The moral of this parable is that everyone who \_\_\_\_\_

himself will be \_\_\_\_\_, and he who \_\_\_\_\_

himself will be \_\_\_\_\_.”

12. Number the words below to show whom you should think about first, second, and third.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yourself          \_\_\_\_\_ Other people          \_\_\_\_\_ God

13. Is this parable just about wedding feasts, or is it about any place where there are important people and less important people?

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14. Can you think of times when you might be invited somewhere and you have to be sure that you are not trying to be the most important person there?

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15. Give examples of times when you can give the best to someone else and humbly take less for yourself.

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"For everyone who  
exalts himself will  
be humbled, and  
he who is humble  
will be exalted."

JESUS.

Luke 14:11

# 13

## The Great Banquet

Luke 14: 15-24

**Memory verse:** “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.” Acts 2: 38

He (Jesus) said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet (dinner, feast) and invited many. And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ But they all alike began to make excuses.

The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’

And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’

And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’

So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’

And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’

And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

This parable followed the parable of the wedding feast.

**Lessons To Learn:** In this parable, the banquet is like the kingdom of God with all of its blessings.

People who refuse God’s invitation will not be able to come into His kingdom.

The Jews were God’s chosen people who were first invited into God’s kingdom. When they disobeyed and rejected Jesus, God invited the Gentiles into His kingdom, too.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. A banquet is a big dinner or feast.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. We know that the people knew about banquets and invitations because Jesus used them in the parable to teach a lesson.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Everyone who was invited to the banquet came to the banquet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The master replaced the first people invited to the banquet with all different kinds of people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. God's invitation to His kingdom is to everyone, but not everyone will come.

**Short Answer:**

6. What was the first man's excuse for not going to the banquet? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What was the second man's excuse for not going to the banquet? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What was the third man's excuse for not going to the banquet? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Did any of the people have a good **reason** for not going to the banquet?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. How did the master feel when the people he invited did not come to the banquet?

**Remember this:**

11. Who did God first invite into His kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Did the Jews all believe and obey God and accept Jesus when He came to earth?

---

13. Did the Jews have any good reason to disobey God? \_\_\_\_\_  
Think about the statements below. Circle any of them that are true.

**God didn't tell them what He wanted them to do.**

**God did not send them prophets to warn them not to sin.**

**The nations around them made them sin. (They couldn't help it.)**

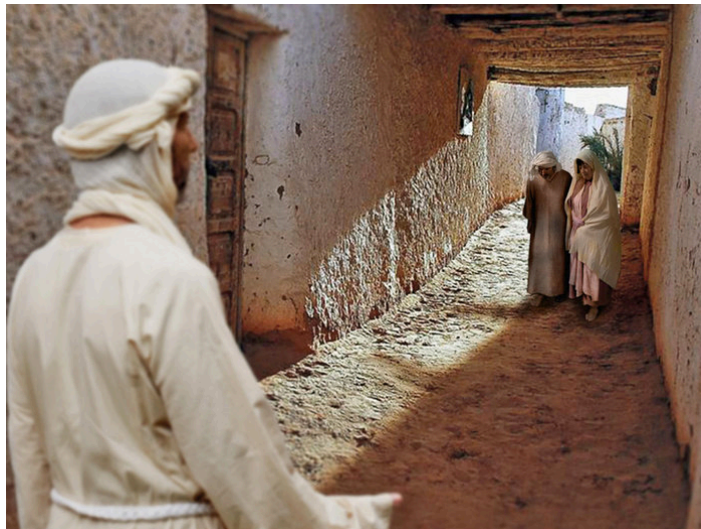
**They didn't know that Jesus was coming.**

**No one had preached to them about the kingdom of God coming soon.**

14. God invites everyone into His kingdom. Who will be responsible for hearing the invitation and coming to God?

15. Who is the only person who can keep you from coming to God?

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# 14

## The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin

Luke 15:3-10; Matthew 18: 14

**Memory verse:** “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.” Luke 15: 6

So He (Jesus) told them this parable: “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Matthew 18: 14 says, “So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”

“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**Lessons to Learn:** God/Jesus is like the man who had lost one sheep. The ninety-nine sheep are compared to righteous people who do not need to repent.

The lost sheep and the lost coin are compared to a person who is a sinner.

When he repents, there is joy in heaven.

God doesn't want anyone to be lost and go to hell.

### True or False:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The man wasn't concerned about the one lost sheep because he had ninety-nine left.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. God is concerned about everyone and wants them all to obey him.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. There is more joy over one sinner who repents than over many people who are righteous.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. We all should rejoice when some one repents and turns back to God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The woman didn't look very hard to find the one lost coin.

**Short Answer:**

6. What did the man do when he lost one sheep? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What did the woman do when she lost a coin? Be sure to list everything she did.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Fill in the blanks with what the man and woman said when they found the lost sheep/coin.

“ \_\_\_\_\_ with me, for I have found my sheep/coin that was \_\_\_\_\_.”

9. In your own words, what does it mean to rejoice or be joyful? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Who does God want to be lost?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. Does God seek for lost people? \_\_\_\_\_

12. If so, how does He seek for them today? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Does God rejoice about the righteous people, too?

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Why do God and the angels in heaven rejoice so much over the lost who are found?

15. Do we need to look for lost people and try to save them?

Tell things you can do to try to teach people.



# 15

## The Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-32

**Memory verse:** “This your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.” Luke 15: 32

And He (Jesus) said, “There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he wasted his property in reckless (careless) living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine (a lack of food) arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” And he arose and came to his father.

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion (love, pity, concern), and ran and embraced (hugged) him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you

never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes (sinful women), you killed the fattened calf for him!’

And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

**Lessons to Learn:** God is like the father who is watching and waiting to welcome his children back when they repent.

The younger son finally “came to himself”/started thinking correctly and realized how badly he had sinned.

The older son should have been happy that his brother had repented.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The son left home and wasted the money his father had given to him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The son had a better life when he was in the foreign land.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Even his father’s servants had more food than the son had after his money ran out and the famine came.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The father celebrated when his son returned even though the son had lived sinfully before.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The older son was happy that his brother had returned.

**Short Answer:**

6. What did the young son ask his father to give him? \_\_\_\_\_

7. After the son left, what did he do in the far away land? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is a famine? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What job did the son get? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Suddenly the son realized something that made him want to go home.  
What was it?

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11. When did the father see the son returning?

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12. How did the father welcome the son?

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13. How did the older brother feel about his brother coming home? Why  
did he feel that way?

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**Remember this:**

14. In this parable God is like the \_\_\_\_\_.

15. Does God make people obey Him? \_\_\_\_\_

16. Is God waiting for people who are lost, and is He willing to forgive  
them if they repent?

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17. The older brother had a bad attitude. How should we feel when  
someone repents and turns back to obey God?

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# 16

## The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31

**Memory verse:** “If your brothers won’t listen to Moses and the prophets, they won’t listen to someone who comes back from the dead.”  
Luke 16: 31

Now there was a certain rich man, and he was clothed in purple and fine linen, faring sumptuously (living richly) every day; and a certain beggar named Lazarus was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring (wanting) to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table; yea, even the dogs come and licked his sores.

And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and that he was carried away by the angels into Abraham's bosom (Paradise): and the rich man also died, and was buried. And in Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torments (suffering), and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom (chest). And he cried and said, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.”

But Abraham said, “Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things: but now here he is comforted and you are in anguish (great suffering). And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf (a deep pit, hole) fixed, that they that would pass from here to you may not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us.”

And he said, “I pray you therefore, father, that thou would send him to my father's house; for I have five brethren; that he may testify (give evidence) to them, lest they also come into this place of torment.”

But Abraham said, “They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.”

And he said, “No, father Abraham: but if one go to them from the dead, they will repent.”

And he said unto him, “If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded (caused to believe), if one rise from the dead.”

**Lessons to Learn:** The rich man had plenty of things on earth, but he was poor because he did not have God.

Lazarus had almost nothing on earth, but he really was rich because he was faithful to God.

God has given men free will to choose to be good or evil.

God has given us everything we need to obey Him in the Bible.

Once a person has died, it is too late to repent.

When a person dies, he goes to Hades to wait until the Judgment Day.

Hades has two parts—Paradise and torment.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The rich man must have seen Lazarus because he was sitting at the rich man's gate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Lazarus ate the things that fell off the rich man's table.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Angels carried Lazarus to Hades.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. No one could go from one part of Hades to the other.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Abraham agreed to send Lazarus to warn the rich man's brothers to repent.

**Short Answer:**

6. How did the rich man live? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How did Lazarus live? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is another name for Paradise or the good part of Hades? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What did the rich man want from Lazarus because he was suffering? \_\_\_\_\_



10. Why couldn't a person go from one part of Hades to the other part?

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11. Who did the rich man's brothers have to listen to in order to know that they must repent?

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**Remember this:**

12. Does a person have a second chance to obey God after he dies? \_\_\_\_\_

13. From this parable we see that a person who does not obey God goes to the part of Hades called \_\_\_\_\_ (which means suffering).

14. What really makes a man rich spiritually? \_\_\_\_\_

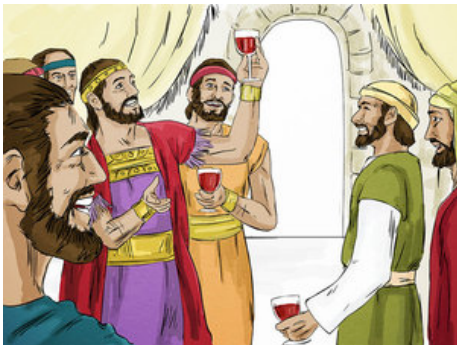
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15. What part did the angels have in this story? \_\_\_\_\_

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16. What is Hades? \_\_\_\_\_

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# 17

## Workers in the Vineyard

Matthew 20: 1-16

**Memory verse:** “The gift of God eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6: 23

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour (9 a.m.) he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour (12 noon) and the ninth hour (3 p.m.), he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ (The eleventh hour was the last hour of the day.)

They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’

He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius.

And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’

But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge (resent), my generosity (kindness)?’ So the last will be first, and the first last.”

**Lessons to Learn:** The reward for people who obey God is a home in heaven.

Whether a person learns about God and obeys Him when he is young or whether a person learns about God and obeys Him when he is old, he will be able to go to heaven.

We must start right now to obey God.  
Remember that a denarius was money equaling a day's pay.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. In this parable the master is like God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Everyone hired to work in the vineyard worked for the same amount of time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Everyone who worked received the same pay no matter how long they had worked.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The workers in the parable are like people who obey God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. All of the workers were happy with their pay at the end of the day.

**Short Answer:**

6. For how much pay did the first workers who were hired agree to work?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. List all the times of day that the master went and found more workers.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. How did the workers who were hired first feel when everyone was paid the same amount?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Why did the master say it was right that everyone was paid the same?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. How should the first workers have felt about their pay?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. What is the reward for people who obey God? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Does the reward change if the person has obeyed God for most of his life, some of his life, or just the last part of his life?

13. How should we feel when someone obeys God, even if they only obey God toward the end of their life? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Read Romans 6: 23 and fill in the blanks.

“For the \_\_\_\_\_ (pay) of sin is \_\_\_\_\_; but the gift of God is \_\_\_\_\_ through Jesus Christ our \_\_\_\_\_.”

15. List the steps of salvation

H \_\_\_\_\_

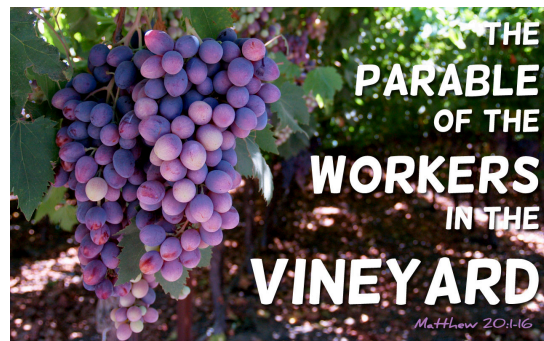
B \_\_\_\_\_

R \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_

Be B \_\_\_\_\_

Remain faithful.



# 18

## The Parable of the Persistent Widow

Luke 18: 1-8: 11:

**Memory verse:** “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.” Luke 11: 9

And He (Jesus) told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart (become discouraged). He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary (enemy).’ For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, ‘Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.’”

And the Lord said, “Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect (chosen people), who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

In Luke 11, Jesus also said, “And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

**Lessons to Learn:** This parable was to teach people to keep praying and not grow tired or weary.

God will hear the prayers of people who obey Him.

God will give us what we need, if we ask according to His will.

This widow is called “persistent” because she kept going to the judge for what she wanted. She was determined and did not stop asking.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The judge helped the woman because it was the right thing to do.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The judge giving the woman the justice that she asked for is like God who gives His people justice.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. God's elect are Christians.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. God will take better care of His people than a father would take care of his children.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. God hears and answers everyone's prayers.

**Short Answer:**

- 6. What kind of man was the judge? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7. What did the widow keep asking the judge?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 8. Why did the judge finally give the widow what she wanted?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 9. What does "God's elect" mean?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 10. In Luke 11, God compared God to a \_\_\_\_\_ who knows how to give his children good gifts.

**Remember this:**

- 11. If God knows what we need already, why do we keep asking God for what we need and for what other people need?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Justice is what is right and fair. Who knows what is right for His people?

Do we always know what is best for us? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Fill in the blanks. Try to do it from memory.

“ \_\_\_\_\_, and it will be \_\_\_\_\_ to you;

\_\_\_\_\_, and you will \_\_\_\_\_;

\_\_\_\_\_, and it will be \_\_\_\_\_ to you.

**Luke 11: 9**

14. Read I Thessalonians 5: 17 and fill in the blanks.

“ \_\_\_\_\_ without ceasing.”

15. For whom can we pray? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. For what can we pray? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Can you ask God  
For anything that  
you want?



# 19

## The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luke 18:9-14

## The Parable of the Two Sons

Matthew 21: 28-32

**Memory verse:** “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 18: 14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt (scorn, disdain, disrespect): “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners (persons who get money from other people by threatening them or taking the money by force), unjust (not right or fair), adulterers (people who cheat on their husband or wife), or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified (righteous before God), rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

### The Parable of the Two Sons

“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went.

And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?”

They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”



**Lessons to Learn:** We should always be humble before God, which means that we realize that we are sinners, we ask God to forgive us, and we are willing to listen to His word.

We do not judge how good we are by what other people do. We measure ourselves by the Bible.

Children should always obey their parents. We obey God when we obey our parents.

If we disobey, we can make ourselves right by being sorry and starting to do the right thing. (repenting)

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The first parable taught a lesson about how to think about oneself and about others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Pharisee was a humble man.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. We can count ourselves as good people if there are worse people than ourselves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The first of the two sons was the better son because he changed his mind and obeyed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. In the second parable Jesus said that the Jewish rulers to whom He was speaking did not believe John.

**Short Answer:**

6. Jesus told the first parable to people who \_\_\_\_\_

7. How did these people treat other people? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Which person exalted himself (told God how he was better than other people)? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Which person was humble when he prayed to God? What did he say? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Which of the sons were rebellious to the father at any time in the parable?

11. Which son was better and why was he better?

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**Remember this:**

12. The Pharisee who prayed compared himself to evil people to make himself exalted. Match the people he mentioned with the sin they did.

\_\_\_ Adulterers

\_\_\_ Extortioners

\_\_\_ tax collector

\_\_\_ unjust

1. People who get money from other people by threatening them or taking the money by force

2. Not right or fair

3. A person he assumed was a sinner even though he did not know.

4. People who cheat on their husband or wife

13. What do we use to tell if we are being righteous or not? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Was the first son right in all that he did? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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15. The tax collectors were looked down upon because many of them sinned and prostitutes were sinners too, but Jesus said they would get into the kingdom of heaven because they \_\_\_\_\_.

continued

16. The chief priests and elders did not believe and Jesus says, “**And even when you \_\_\_\_\_ it, you did not afterward \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ him.**” Matthew 21: 32

17. The parable of the two sons compares the Jewish leaders and the sinners to two sons. Match the son with the group they stood for in the parable.

**First Son**

**Pharisees**

(proud of themselves because they thought they were righteous, but they would not hear and believe John’s preaching)

**Second Son**

**Sinners**

(refused God’s word at first, but then believed and repented when they heard John’s preaching)



## 20

# Wicked Tenants of the Vineyard

Matthew 21:33-44; Mark 12:1-12; Luke 20:9-19

**Memory verse:** “The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.” Matthew 21:43

(Jesus said to the chief priests and elders,) Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants (renters), and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.”

But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.” And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?

They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “*The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes*’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived (understood) that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

**Lessons to Learn:** Jesus was the cornerstone that the Jews rejected or refused to hear. He was telling the Jews that they would be destroyed because they fell over Him or stumbled because of their disbelief.

In this parable the master is God, the vineyard is Israel, and the renters are the Jewish leaders who refused to hear God's prophets and His Son. The new tenants who would bear fruit are Gentiles who would believe and enter the kingdom.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The master of the house planting a vineyard is compared to God preparing His people, Israel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The tenants (renters) and the master's servants got along well together.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. When the son came, the renters finally did what the master wanted.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The Chief Priests and Pharisees knew what a master would do to rebellious renters like the ones in the parable.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The Chief Priests and Pharisees arrested Jesus for talking about them.

**Short Answer:**

6. What happened to the servants that the master sent to the vineyard?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why did the master send his son to the vineyard?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What happened to the son?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Who was the "stone" which the builders rejected?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. The Kingdom of God was going to be taken away from the

\_\_\_\_\_ and given to \_\_\_\_\_ who would bear fruit.

**Remember this:**

11. Who had God picked to be his chosen people from the time of Abraham?

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Had His people always obeyed Him? Tell how they used to act.

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13. Circle the things which God had done for His people.

Blessed them

Saved them from other nations

Given them His word through the prophets

Promised them His Son (and salvation)

Made them a great nation

Punished them when they disobeyed

Sent John to preach to them

Sent Jesus

14. Why is it important to us that God allowed Gentiles into His kingdom?  
Remember that Gentiles were anyone who was not a Jew.

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15. Fill in the blanks and be ready to discuss. In I Peter 2: 9, Peter tells the Christians,

“But you are a \_\_\_\_\_ race , a royal

\_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ nation, a people for his own

\_\_\_\_\_, that you may proclaim the excellencies of

Him who called you out of \_\_\_\_\_ into his marvelous light.”



# 21

## Wedding Feast

Matthew 22:1-14

**Memory verse:** "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 7: 21

And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast."'"

But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find." And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind (tie) him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen."

Matthew 7: 21 tells us, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

**Lessons to Learn:** In this parable, the king is like God who calls or invites men to the kingdom. The son is Jesus.

Some people who were invited to the feast just did not come. Other people killed the king's servants. This shows that people react in different ways when they hear God's invitation.

The Jews had been the first people who God called. When they refused to obey God, God called other people (Gentiles). The person without the wedding garment had not obeyed God and was not prepared for the kingdom.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The king had prepared a lot so he could invite people to the feast for his son.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. God had invited the Gentiles to His kingdom before He invited other people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The king (God) invited more people to the feast because the first people that he invited were not worthy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Many people will make it into God's kingdom.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Anyone who does not prepare correctly for the feast (kingdom) will be cast into outer darkness.

**Short Answer:**

6. What did the servants tell the people that the king had prepared? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Tell two ways the people acted when they were invited to the feast.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What did the king do to the murderers?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. The servants went and invited more people. The king said they should

invite as many “ \_\_\_\_\_,” and they

gathered both “ \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”



10. The king saw a man who was not prepared because he did not have a

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**Remember this:**

11. How were the Israelites (Jews) invited or called by God? He made them His \_\_\_\_\_ people and sent \_\_\_\_\_ to teach them.

12. We are Gentiles, so why is this lesson important to us? \_\_\_\_\_

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13. Will everyone who is called by God obey Him? \_\_\_\_\_

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14. Can we come to the kingdom of God in any way that we want to come? \_\_\_\_\_

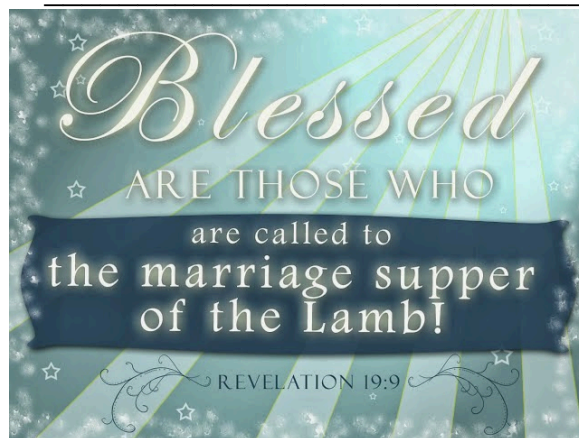
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15. What will happen to those people who are not prepared? \_\_\_\_\_

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16. Will there be people who say that they obey God, but they don't really obey Him? \_\_\_\_\_

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## 22

### Wise and Foolish Girls

Matthew 25: 1-13

**Memory verse:** “Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.” Matthew 24: 42

(Jesus said,) “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’

But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’

And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

**Lessons to Learn:** We are waiting for Jesus to come again, but we don’t know when that will be.

We have to be ready for Jesus to come at any time.

If we are not ready, we will not be able to be with Jesus.

#### True or False:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus’ coming will be like the bridegroom coming in this parable.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. All the girls were ready for the bridegroom to come because they all had lamps.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The wise virgins should have shared their oil with the foolish virgins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The foolish virgins could not get in after the door was shut.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. When Jesus comes again, if a person is not ready he will not have time to get ready.

**Short Answer:**

6. The ten virgins were divided into two groups, the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

7. What did the foolish virgins forget? Or, how were they unprepared?

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. What happened when the bridegroom didn't come right away?

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. Why didn't the wise virgins share their oil with the foolish virgins?

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. When the foolish virgins knocked on the door, what did the bridegroom say to them?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. Match the things in the parable to the things they stand for.

Wise virgins

Jesus

Foolish virgins

People who are prepared for Jesus to come.

Bridegroom

Kingdom of heaven

Marriage feast

People who are not prepared for Jesus to come.

12. When do we need to be prepared for Jesus' coming? \_\_\_\_\_

13. How do we prepare for Jesus' Second Coming? \_\_\_\_\_

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14. Who knows when Jesus is coming? Read Matthew 24: 36 and fill in the blanks.

**“But concerning that day and hour \_\_\_\_\_ knows,**

**not even the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven, nor the \_\_\_\_\_**

**but the \_\_\_\_\_ only.**

15. Read I Corinthians 15: 52 and fill in the blanks to see why there will be no time for people to prepare when Jesus comes again.

**“In a \_\_\_\_\_, in the \_\_\_\_\_ of**

**an eye, at the last \_\_\_\_\_; for the**

**\_\_\_\_\_ will sound, and the \_\_\_\_\_**

**will be raised...”**



## 23

# The Vine and the Branches

John 15: 1-11

**Memory verse:** “By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples.” John 15: 8

“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes (cuts), that it may bear more fruit. Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples. As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.”

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Jesus compares Christians to branches. God is the vinedresser who wants His people to bear much fruit, so He prunes branches to make them stronger and more fruitful. Branches (Christians) have to abide in (stay in) Christ to bear fruit.

**Lessons to Learn:** A branch is useless if it does not bear fruit. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself. The branch must be connected to the vine.

Branches that do not bear fruit are cut off and burned.  
We abide in Christ's love IF we keep His commandments.

### True or False:

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. In this comparison or parable, Jesus is the vine.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. If a branch doesn't abide in the vine it withers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. When a branch bears a little fruit that is good, too.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. When a branch bears much fruit, it glorifies the Father.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The branches can be compared to both Christians and non-Christians.

**Short Answers:**

6. What does the vinedresser do to the branches that do not bear fruit? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What does the vinedresser do to the branches that bear fruit? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What can the branch do by itself? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What happens to branches that do not abide in (stay in) Christ, the vine? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Christians abide in Christ's love as Christ abides in whose love? \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. How do God's people prove that they are His disciples? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. How do God's people abide in His love? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. What kind of fruit should Christians bear? Read Galatians 5: 22-23 and list the fruit of the Spirit.

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14. What things can you do to show you have the fruit of the Spirit? Write down an idea for each one of the fruits. Ask your parents to help you if you need help.

**Love** \_\_\_\_\_

**Joy** \_\_\_\_\_

**Peace** \_\_\_\_\_

**Patience (endurance)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kindness** \_\_\_\_\_

**Goodness** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faithfulness** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gentleness** \_\_\_\_\_

**Self-control** \_\_\_\_\_

But the fruit of the spirit is  
LOVE JOY  
PEACE  
PATIENCE  
KINDNESS  
GOODNESS  
FAITHFULNESS  
GENTLENESS  
SELFCONTROL  
against such things there is no law.  
Galatians 5:22-23

## 24

# Parables about the Second Coming of Christ

Mark 13:32-37; Luke 12: 35-40

**Memory verse:** “Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come.” Mark 13: 33

### Waiting for the Master of the House to Return

(Jesus said)“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

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### Coming Like a Thief in the Night

“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch (10 p.m. to 2 a.m.), or in the third (2a.m. to sunrise), and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man (Christ) is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

**Lessons to Learn:** We always need to be ready for Christ to come again. No one knows when Christ will come again except God. We have to be busy doing God’s will, so we can be ready for Christ to come.



**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Christ is compared to a master (or master of a house) in these parables.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. All the servants will be ready when the master returns.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. We are like the servants in the parables and must be ready all the time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Christ could come again at any time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The people listening to Jesus did not understand about servants and masters.

**Short Answers:**

6. Jesus said that no one knows the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ of His return, not even the \_\_\_\_\_ .

7. In the first parable, what four different times are mentioned as times when Christ (the master) might come?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. In the first parable, Jesus says to keep \_\_\_\_\_ because if He comes suddenly, we don't want Him to find us \_\_\_\_\_

9. In the second parable, Jesus said, "Stay \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ and keep your \_\_\_\_\_ burning....," to tell us to be ready all the time.

10. Which servants are blessed? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Remember this:**

11. In the first parable, Jesus said His Second Coming “is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge,

”

12. Has God given us work to do while we are waiting for Christ to come?  
What kind of work?

13. Read I Thessalonians 5: 2 and fill in the blanks.

**“For you yourselves know full well that the day of the**

\_\_\_\_\_ **will come just like a** \_\_\_\_\_

**in the** \_\_\_\_\_**.”**

14. Some people think that Christ will come and set up a kingdom on the earth. But, the apostle Paul says, *“For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.”* **I Thessalonians 4: 16-17**

15. In the verse above, where does Paul say that Christians will meet Christ?

*“Stay dressed for action  
and  
keep your lamps burning...”*

## 25

### Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25: 1, 14-30

**Memory verse:** “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much.”  
Matthew 25:23

(A talent was a Greek coin worth 6,000 days of pay.)

For it,(the kingdom of heaven), will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, “Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.”

His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.”

And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, “Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.”

His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.”

He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, “Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.”

But his master answered him, “You wicked and slothful (lazy) servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with

interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

**Lessons to Learn:** When God gives us the ability to do things for Him, we must be sure to do what we can to obey Him.

It doesn't matter if we are able to do a little or a lot, as long as we do what we are able to do.

We will be rewarded or punished for what we choose to do.

**True or False:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. All the servants used the money that was given to them to make more for their master.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. It wasn't good enough for the third servant to return only what the master had given him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The master in this parable is like God.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Outer darkness and weeping and gnashing of teeth are descriptions of hell.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. God gives everyone the same abilities.

**Short Answer:**

6. How many talents did the master give to each man? #1. \_\_\_\_\_

#2. \_\_\_\_\_ #3. \_\_\_\_\_

7. The master gave the talents to the servants according to \_\_\_\_\_

8. What did the servants with the five talents and the two talents do with the money?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What did the servant with one talent do with the money?

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10. Why did the servant say he did that with the one talent? \_\_\_\_\_

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11. With which servants was the master pleased?

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Remember this:**

12. What did the master say to the servants with the five and two talents?

**“Well done, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
servant.”**

13. What did the master call the one talent servant?

**“You \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
servant!”**

14. Did the servants have a choice of what they could do with the talents  
that the master gave them? \_\_\_\_\_

15. If God lets us make our own choices, does that mean that everything we  
might do is O.K.? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

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## 26

# The Sheep and the Goats

Matthew 25:31-46

**Memory verse:** “Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom.” Matthew 25: 34

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And He will place the sheep on His right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right, “Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.”

Then the righteous will answer him, saying, “Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? And when did we see You a stranger and welcome You, or naked and clothe You? And when did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?”

And the King will answer them, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me.”

Then He will say to those on His left, “Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.”

Then they also will answer, saying, “Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?”

Then He will answer them, saying, “Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

**Lessons to Learn:** Jesus compared righteous people to sheep, and unrighteous people to goats.



10. How many possible rewards or punishments are there?

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**Remember this:**

11. On what side of Christ's throne will the sheep (righteous people) be?  
And on what side will the goats (unrighteous people) be?

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12. Read John 2: 15-17 and fill in the blanks.

“If a brother or sister is poorly \_\_\_\_\_ and lacking in \_\_\_\_\_, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_,” without giving them the things \_\_\_\_\_ for the body, what good is that? So also \_\_\_\_\_ by itself, if it does not have \_\_\_\_\_, is dead.”

13. According to the verse above, if we really love someone, we have to \_\_\_\_\_, not just talk about it.

14. When we do good deeds for other people or serve other people, whom are we really serving?

15. How long will God's reward of the righteous people and punishment of the unrighteous people last?

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