

Week 4: Intro to the parables + Parables of the kingdom

Objective:

- Learn the parables and their meanings
- How can we apply what we learned in our lives

Resources:

- Fr Tadros Y Malaty Commentary on Matthew
- Fr Tadros Y Malaty Commentary on Luke
- Catena Bible Commentary (Matthew)
- Catena Bible Commentary (Luke)
- HEMY's Bible study on Matthew
- HEMY's Bible study on Luke

Reading:

- Matthew 13

Key verse(s):

- "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Matthew 13:9

Comments:

- A parable is a story in which a special meaning or a spiritual lesson is embedded
- A way to deliver the message in a simple way
- Parables are found only in the synoptic Gospels
- They are often stories based on the agricultural life that was familiar to His audience
- Some unfamiliar concepts, such as the kingdom of God, were compared to something from everyday life that could easily be understood
- It is the lesson of a parable that is important to us.
- "It is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning"

- | Parable | Matthew | Mark | Luke |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| The Sower | 13:3-23 | 4:2-20 | 8:4-15 |
| The Hidden Treasure | 13:44 | | |
| The Pearl of Great Price | 13:45, 46 | | |
| The Growing Seed | | 4:26-29 | |
| The Mustard Seed | 13:31, 32 | 4:30-32 | 13:18, 19 |
| The Leaven | 13:33 | | 13:20, 21 |
| The Hidden Treasure | 13:44 | | |
| The Tares* | 13:24-30 | | |
| The Dragnet* | 13:47-50 | | |

Like the seed (Mk 4:26) Fruits based soil. Like the leaven, & mustard seed (Mt 13:31; Mk 4:30) Starts small, invisible but grows by God's grace Like hidden treasure, & Pearl of great price (Mt 13:44) valuable, worth the sacrifice, joy for the finder! Like wheat & tares, net (Mt 13:24) Opposition to the Kingdom Co-existence of good and evil until judgment (harvest, net cast).

- "Hear" occurs 19 times in Mt 13, 7 times in the parable. "Seed" – Word of God: (1) has life, (2) must be planted, (3) nurtured, (4) bears fruit. "Soil #1"– Hard, on rocky path, stolen by bird (Satan) "Soil #2" – shallow root, withers under persecution (flesh). "Soil #3" – Crowded, choked by thorns of the world (riches). "Soil #4" – Good. fruitful. Hears, receives, believes, & obeys. Which soil are you? Which soil do you want to be?

Review/recap questions:

***Servant may add more questions*

Homework:

***Servant may add more questions*

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