



PARABLES

Jesus' Answers to
Kingdom Questions



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The Kingdom of God
is revealed!

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OR GROUP, PLEASE CONTACT NOT CONSUMED MINISTRIES
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WHAT'S IN THIS Study?

DAY 1: Purpose of Parables

DAY 2: The Sower and the Seed

DAY 3: Wise and Foolish Builders

DAY 4: New Patch on an Old Garment

DAY 5: Mustard Seeds

DAY 6: Hidden Treasures and Pearls

DAY 7: The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin

DAY 8: The Forgiving Father

DAY 9: The Unforgiving Servant

DAY 10: The Two Sons

DAY 11: The Barren Fig Tree

DAY 12: The Tenants and the Son

DAY 13: The Great Banquet

DAY 14: The Talents

DAY 15: The Good Samaritan

DAY 16: The Rich Fool

DAY 17: Laborers in the Vineyard

DAY 18: The Persistent Widow

DAY 19: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

DAY 20: Answers to Kingdom Questions

Primary Level

Purpose of Parables

What is the most interesting story you have ever heard?

In the Bible, Jesus used a type of story called a parable when He taught.

A **parable** is an earthly story that teaches a heavenly truth. Many times Jesus used parables to explain the things He was doing or to answer questions people asked Him.

Read **Matthew 13:10**.

What did Jesus' disciples ask Him?

Read **Matthew 13: 13-16**.

In His answer, why did Jesus say the people closed their eyes?

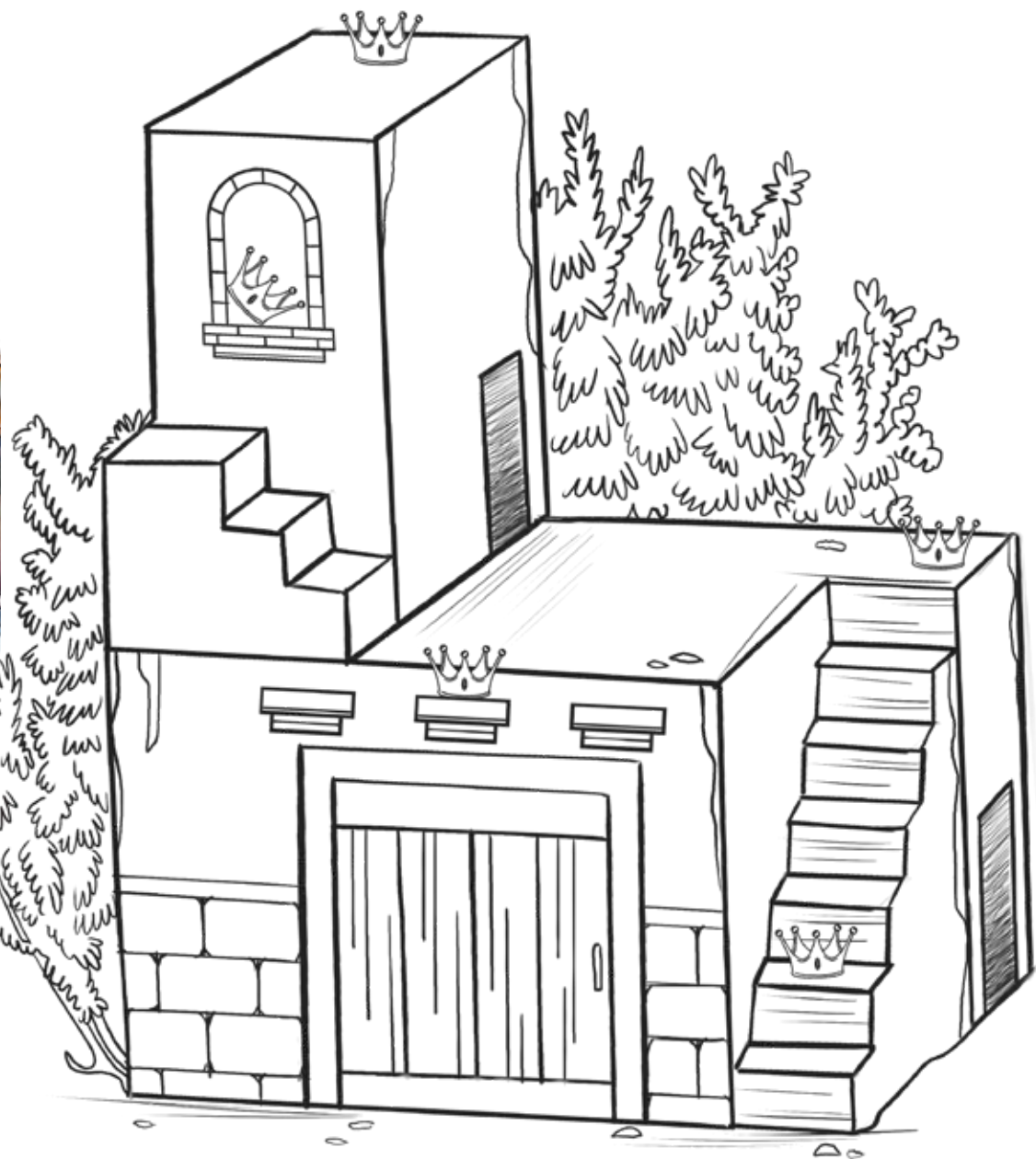
The Pharisees, the religious leaders, and many of the common people had closed their eyes to the truth Jesus was teaching because they didn't want to believe Jesus was who He said He was.

Jesus spoke in parables to reveal the truth to those who would listen and conceal it from those who would not.

Each parable has something we can learn. As we study Jesus' parables, we will try to understand what they meant in Jesus' time and figure out what Jesus wants us to learn from them today.



The truth Jesus taught about the kingdom was clear to those who were looking for it! Look carefully to find the 5 crowns in this picture.



As you pray, thank God for creating a kingdom of people who believe in Jesus. Ask Him to give you ears to hear His truth.

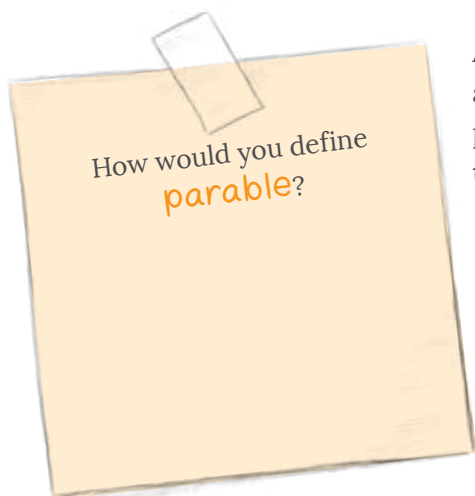
*Find today's sticker and add it to pages 4-5.

Junior Level

Purpose of Parables

What is the most interesting story or sermon illustration you have ever heard?

Stories are a memorable way to make what you're talking about interesting and help others to understand the truth of what you are teaching! In the Bible, Jesus used a type of story called a parable when He taught.



A parable is an earthly story that teaches a heavenly truth. Many times Jesus used parables to explain what He was doing or to answer questions people asked Him.

Read **Matthew 13:10**.
What did Jesus' disciples ask Him?

Read KEY VERSES **Matthew 13:13-16**.

In His answer, why did Jesus say the people closed their eyes?



The Pharisees, the religious leaders, and many of the common people had closed their eyes to the truth Jesus was teaching because they didn't want to believe Jesus was who He said He was.

Read **Matthew 13:18-19 and 24**. What kind of kingdom was Jesus talking about?



Jesus was using parables to teach about the kingdom of heaven. This kingdom is made up of people who believe in Jesus and have come to Him for salvation. Jesus wants to rule the hearts of people all over the world.

Why do you think Jesus would use parables to teach?

Jesus' parables were often about planting, masters, servants, and money. This made His teaching simple enough that even a farmer or fisherman could understand Him. If the listeners were humble and wanted to know the truth, they could understand Jesus' point. However, many would harden their hearts and not be able to understand Jesus' words at all.

Jesus spoke in parables to reveal
the truth to those who would listen
and conceal it from those who would not.

Not every part of a parable has a direct application to you and me, but each one has something we can learn. As we study Jesus' parables, we will try to understand what they meant in Jesus' time and figure out what Jesus wants us to learn from them today.

As you pray, thank God for creating a kingdom that includes all who believe in Jesus. Ask Him to give you ears to hear so that you can understand the truths Jesus taught.

*Find the sticker for this lesson and add it to pages 4-5.



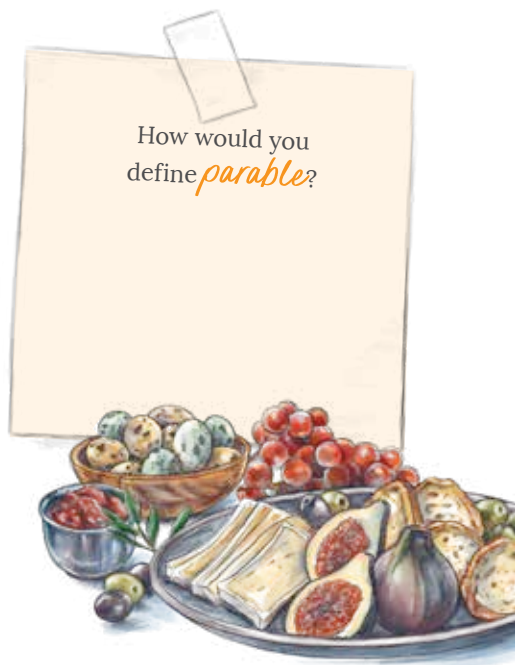
Youth Level

Purpose of Parables

What is the most interesting story or sermon illustration you have ever heard?

Stories are a memorable way to make what you're talking about interesting and help others to understand the truth of what you are teaching! In the Bible, Jesus used a type of story called a parable when He taught. Learning about these parables will teach us a lot about Jesus' mission, but it will also help you interpret the Gospels correctly when studying them on your own. Let's jump in!

In this study, we will define a parable as "an earthly story that teaches a heavenly truth." Many times, Jesus used parables to explain what He was doing or to answer questions people asked Him. For this reason, understanding the context of the parable is important.



Read *Matthew 13:10*.

What did Jesus' disciples ask Him?

Read KEY VERSES *Matthew 13:11-16*. At the end of His answer, why did Jesus say the people closed their eyes?

The Pharisees, the religious leaders, and many of the common people had closed their eyes to the truth Jesus was teaching because they didn't want to believe Jesus was who He said He was. They were looking for someone who would heal their land and protect them from the Romans, but Jesus had come to heal their sin and protect them from Satan. Jesus had a different kind of kingdom in mind.

Read *Matthew 13:18-19, 24*. What kind of kingdom was Jesus referring to?



Jesus was using parables to teach about the kingdom of heaven. While not a physical kingdom quite yet, this kingdom is made up of people who believe in Jesus and have come to Him for salvation. Jesus didn't want to rule Jerusalem as His kingdom, He wants to rule the hearts of people all over the world.

Jesus' parables are stories about people, places, and things that His audience knew and experienced every day. Why do you think Jesus told parables like that?

Jesus talked about familiar scenarios for them such as planting, masters, servants, and debt. This made His teaching simple enough that even the humble farmers from remote villages could understand Him. If the listeners were to carefully and humbly think about the story, they could understand Jesus' point. However, many would harden their hearts and not be able to understand Jesus' words at all.



Jesus spoke in *parables* to reveal the truth to those who would listen and conceal it from those who would not.

Not every part of a parable has a direct application to you and me, but each one has something we can learn. As we study Jesus' parables, we will seek to understand them in their original context and figure out what Jesus wants us to learn from them today.

Do you know any parables? What lesson can you learn from them?

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As you pray, thank God for creating a kingdom that includes all who believe in Jesus. Ask Him to give you ears to hear so that you can understand the truths Jesus taught as you learn about parables. *Find the sticker for this lesson and add it to pages 4-5.

Parent Guide

Purpose of Parables

What is the most interesting story or sermon illustration you have ever heard?

Stories are a memorable way to make what you're talking about interesting and help others to understand the truth of what you are teaching! In the Bible, Jesus used a type of story called a parable when He taught. Learning about these parables will teach us a lot about Jesus' mission, but it will also help you interpret the Gospels correctly when studying them on your own.

In this study, we will define a parable as "an earthly story that teaches a heavenly truth." Many times, Jesus used parables to explain what He was doing or to answer questions people asked Him. For this reason, understanding the context of the parable is important.

Read *Matthew 13:10*.

What did Jesus' disciples ask Him?



Read KEY VERSES *Matthew 13:11-16*. In His answer, why did Jesus say the people closed their eyes?



The Pharisees, the religious leaders, and many of the common people had closed their eyes to the truth Jesus was teaching because they didn't want to believe Jesus was who He said He was. They were looking for someone who would heal their land and protect them from the Romans, but Jesus had come to heal their sin and protect them from Satan. Jesus had a different kind of kingdom in mind.

Read *Matthew 13:18-19 and 24*. What kind of kingdom was Jesus referring to?



Jesus was using parables to teach about the kingdom of heaven. This kingdom is made up of people who believe in Jesus and have come to Him for salvation. Jesus didn't want to rule Jerusalem as His kingdom, He wants to rule the hearts of people all over the world.

Jesus' parables are stories about people, places, and things that His audience knew and experienced every day. Why do you think Jesus told parables like that?

Jesus talked about familiar scenarios to make His teaching simple enough that even the humble farmers from remote villages could understand Him. If the listeners were to carefully and humbly think about the story, they could understand Jesus' point. However, many would harden their hearts and not be able to understand Jesus' words at all.

Parables are interesting to learn about, but they are tricky to understand. It may be helpful to read some examples of books with morals or lessons included to help your kids see how symbolism is sometimes used when telling stories.

Jesus spoke in *parables* to reveal the truth to those who would listen and conceal it from those who would not.

Not every part of a parable has a direct application to you and me, but each one has something we can learn. As we study Jesus' parables, we will seek to understand them in their original context and figure out what Jesus wants us to learn from them today.

As you pray, thank God for creating a kingdom that includes all who believe in Jesus. Ask Him to give you ears to hear so that you can understand the truths Jesus taught as you learn about parables.

*Find the sticker for this lesson and add it to pages 6-7.

Scripture: [Matthew 13:11-16](#)
Key Truth: Jesus spoke in parables to reveal the truth to those who would listen and conceal it from those who would not.

Discussion: Do you know any stories that have a deeper meaning than they seem to at first? Do you know any parables from the Bible? Why are parables important for us today?



PARABLES

Have you ever wondered what Jesus was trying to teach when He told a *parable*? Do you want to know how they apply to you? If so, **Parables** is the perfect study for you!

In this study of God's Word, you will learn about stories that Jesus told in order *to teach people about the kingdom of God*. From "The Lost Sheep" to "The Forgiving Father," each story will show you the truth about who God is and how He shows *His love, mercy, and grace* to those who come to Him.

