

Stop

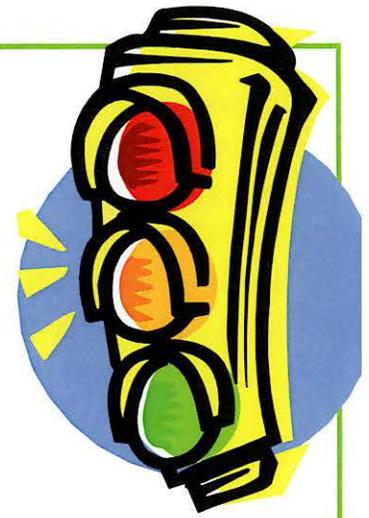
at Bible Class

Look

at Jesus' Works

Listen

to Jesus' Words



Lesson 8

Jesus' Parables

Theme: Faith—Learning from Jesus

Memory Verse

“He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’”
Matthew 16:15-16

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday	Matthew 13:1-8, 13-23
Friday	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40, 47-50
Saturday	Luke 10:25-37
Monday	Luke 12:1, 4-9, 13-21
Tuesday	Luke 15:1-7, 11-32

After this lesson you should be able to ...

- Define “parable”
- Tell two of Jesus’ parables and what they teach
- Tell why Jesus used parables to teach

Everybody loves a good story. Jesus told a lot of good stories that are called parables. A parable is a story that is told to teach a lesson. Parables are stories from life that teach lessons from God — an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.

Jesus Taught in Parables

It was not unusual to see Jesus with a large group of people gathered around Him listening to His words. He taught people about the kingdom of God and the need to

Matthew 13:1-8, 13-23

A parable is:

Isaiah said people didn’t really hear because their hearts had become a) soft, b) hard, c) dull, d) broken

Describe the person who is “good soil” in Jesus’ parable.



change and follow Him. Sometimes what Jesus taught was hard for people to understand. He wanted everyone to understand and often helped people get His point by teaching in parables.

When He used parables, Jesus put two truths side by side. One truth was the story itself — events from real life that people would know about. But there was more to the story. The other truth was a lesson Jesus wanted to teach. The story taught a lesson in a way that people would listen and understand.

Do your parents ever talk to you, but you don't really hear them? You might hear words, but you don't get any message because you aren't listening. Jesus said some people do this with God's word. They hear words, but they don't understand them. To these people, Jesus spoke in parables. Maybe a story would get their attention and help them learn the lesson!

Some of Jesus' Parables

With two of His parables, Jesus not only told the story but He also told the meaning. Read the parable of the sower and the soils on the left and then read its meaning on the right.

The Parable

Behold, the sower went out to sow; and as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil. But when the sun had risen, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. Others fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them out. And others fell on the good soil and yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.

The Meaning

When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.

Jesus did not usually tell the meanings of His parables. He told the stories in a way that if people want to learn the lesson, they can. We must think about Jesus' parables. We may have to

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40, 47-50

Who sowed the tares or weeds in the wheat? [Hint: There are two answers — 13:25 and 13:39.]

At the end of time, if we are disobeying God we will be thrown a) down into the sea, b) into the furnace of fire, c) out in the dump.



work at it a little, but we can learn the lessons He wanted to teach.



Luke 10:25-37

Matching: Priest passed on the other side of the road
 Levite helped him
 Samaritan passed on the other side of the road

Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan to answer, "Who is my _____?"

Luke 12:1, 4-9, 13-21

The farmer was concerned about a) storing crops or b) sharing and giving.

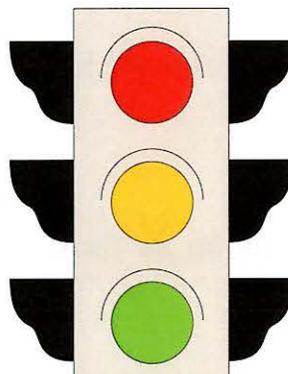
Jesus' lesson was for us to be concerned about a) storing crops or b) sharing and giving.

Name a way you can be "rich toward God" —

Luke 15:1-7, 11-32

Matching: When the son returned home, what happened?
 Younger son got angry
 Father repented
 Older son celebrated

When someone else gets a lot of attention for being good, I am happy for him.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — almost never

Yellow — sometimes

Green — always

SLOW DOWN TO THINK

Make up a parable or tell a story from real life that teaches people to “treat others the way they want to be treated.” Write it here:

GO FOR THE BIBLE FACTS

Right now, in your Bible find the book of Isaiah without using the Table of Contents or index tabs. Now find Romans, and then Titus.

Write down the first word in each book.

What book in the New Testament is about Jesus the Savior of everyone?

On a map inside the back cover, mark with an **X** the city of Damascus..