

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## THE GOOD SAMARITAN

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Luke 10:25-37

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

Why did Jesus tell this parable?  
...And who is your neighbor?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

Why was it surprising that the  
Samaritan was a good neighbor  
instead of the priest and Levite?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Who are the needy people  
that you cross paths with,  
and what are their needs?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

When you see others in need,  
what excuses do you make for  
“passing by on the other side”?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

What is something you can do  
this week to be a better neighbor?

READ IT AGAIN: Luke 10:25-37

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## LOST AND FOUND

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Luke 15

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

Why did Jesus tell this parable?  
(See verses 1-3...)

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

How are all three parables similar?  
...Who is the “hero” in each parable?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

When God’s children choose to depart  
from him, how does he feel?  
...What does he do?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

When we watch one of God’s children  
make bad choices, but then finally  
return to God, how should we react?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

Why should we always be eager  
to forgive others?

READ IT AGAIN: Luke 15

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## THE SOWER & THE SOIL

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Matthew 13:1-23

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

Who does the sower represent  
in Jesus' parable?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

What are the four types of soil?  
...What type of hearer does each type  
of soil represent? (see verses 18-23)

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Who was listening to Jesus' parable?  
...Why is this parable appropriate  
for a large crowd?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

Why did Jesus teach using parables  
such as this one? (see verses 10-17)

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

How do we prove to be the good soil?  
...What might prevent us from  
being the good soil?

READ IT AGAIN: Matthew 13:1-23

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## STEWARDING TALENTS

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Matthew 25:14-30

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

What does it mean to be  
a good steward?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

Why did the man with one talent  
hide his talent instead of  
using it productively?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Why was God upset with the man  
who hid his one talent?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

What “talents” have you been given?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

What are some ways that you can be  
a better steward with the talents  
you have been given?

READ IT AGAIN: Matthew 25:14-30

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Matthew 18:21-35

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

What led Jesus to tell this parable?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

Which servant had the bigger debt?  
...Could he ever repay it?  
(100 denarii = 4 months' wages;  
10,000 talents = 200,000 years' wages!)

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Why is it often hard to show mercy  
and forgive others?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

Why should God's forgiveness lead us  
to want to be more forgiving?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

What are some ways you can show  
mercy and forgive others?

READ IT AGAIN: Matthew 18:21-35

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## THE WEDDING FEAST

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Matthew 22:1-14

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

How did those who were first invited respond to the king's invitation?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

When no one accepted his invitation, who did the king decide to invite?  
...Did many come to the wedding feast?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Why did the king cast out one of the guests from the wedding feast?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

What does this parable teach us to do?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

Who is invited to respond to the gospel invitation?

READ IT AGAIN: Matthew 22:1-14

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## VINEYARD WORKERS

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Matthew 20:1-16

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

Which vineyard workers were upset?  
...Why were they upset?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

Were any vineyard workers  
unfairly underpaid?  
...Were any vineyard workers  
unfairly overpaid?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Does it seem unfair that some people  
become Christians on their deathbeds  
and still obtain the same reward of  
eternal life just like lifelong Christians?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

How do we tend to think wrongly of  
fairness and our eternal reward?  
...What are some ways that we  
“begrudge” our Master’s generosity?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

Why do you think Jesus said *“many who  
are first will be last, and the last first”*  
before and after telling this parable?  
(See Matthew 19:30 & 20:16)

READ IT AGAIN: Matthew 20:1-16

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## FRIEND AT MIDNIGHT

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Luke 11:5-13

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

Why did Jesus say we would help out our friend at midnight?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

In what way was the friend's request quite bold?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Does God want his children to be bold enough to come before his throne and make requests?  
(See Hebrews 4:16)

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

How does Jesus compare our prayers to God and the requests of a child to his father?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

What are some ways that we can become more bold and persistent as we make requests of our Father?

READ IT AGAIN: Luke 11:5-13

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## BUILDING BIGGER BARNS

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Luke 12:13-21

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

What led Jesus to tell this parable?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

Why did the rich man in the parable  
decide to build bigger barns?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Why did God call the rich man  
in the parable a fool?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

What are some ways that we are  
tempted to “build bigger barns”?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

How might we become  
“rich toward God”?

READ IT AGAIN: Luke 12:13-21

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## INVITED GUESTS

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Luke 14:7-14

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

What led Jesus to tell this parable?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

Why did Jesus say we should  
choose the lowly seat?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

What are other ways we can  
choose to humble ourselves?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

Why did Jesus teach that we should  
reach out to lowly people?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

Why is it important that we bless  
those who cannot repay us?  
...What are some ways we can do this?

READ IT AGAIN: Luke 14:7-14

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## THE PERSISTENT WIDOW

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Luke 18:1-8

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

What is the stated purpose for this parable? (see 18:1)

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

How did the widow gain a hearing?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Why is it sometimes hard to be persistent in prayer?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

How is the judge both compared and contrasted to God?  
...What is the point?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

What is something that you want to continue praying about persistently?

READ IT AGAIN: Luke 18:1-8

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)

# PARABLES OF JESUS

## BUILDING ON THE ROCK

BEGIN WITH A PRAYER (“Open our hearts”)

READ TOGETHER: Luke 6:47-49

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#1

How can we be like the wise man who built his house upon the rock?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#2

Which takes more effort: to dig deep and lay your foundation on the rock, or to just build on the ground without a foundation?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#3

Why is it worth the added effort to build your house upon a firm foundation?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#4

What kind of things might happen in life that test our foundation?

DISCUSSION  
QUESTION

#5

What are some ways we can establish our foundation on the rock?

READ IT AGAIN: Luke 6:47-49

END WITH A PRAYER (“Help us remember”)