

Discipleship Journey

Parable of Sower and Seed

Matt 13 v 1-23

Mark 4 v 1-25

Luke 8 v 4-18



Parable of Sower & Seed

- What do we learn about continuing our own discipleship journey with Jesus?
- What do we learn about others making a discipleship journey with Jesus?
- What's our part in moving from disciples to disciple makers?

Parable of Sower & Seed

- Foundational Parable in each of synoptics.
- Precedes other parables
- One of longest with most explanation



Foundational Understanding

Kingdom of God & kingdom of this world

Not overlapping entities

Two completely different states



Foundational Understanding

This Kingdom Parable – Presents two “States”

- Zero fruitfulness
- Abundant fruitfulness – x30; x60; x100

Interpretations further highlight the contrast

- Who is the Sower? – write down your answer!



Jesus gives us Three Interpretive 'Keys'

- The Condition for fruitfulness in God's Kingdom
- What brings about that Condition
- What are the Outcomes of this Condition
- But he warns that it's a "secret"; it's "hidden"
- And these truths echo through all his teaching



Jesus First Interpretive 'Key'

- The Condition for fruitfulness in God's Kingdom
- What makes Good Soil, Good!?
- Write down your answer!!!



Jesus First Interpretive 'Key'

- The Condition for fruitfulness in God's Kingdom
- A full Understanding – Matt 13 v 23
- An honest & good Heart, that retains & perseveres - Luke 8 v 15
- Its Head & Heart!!



Jesus Second Interpretive 'Key'

- What brings about the Condition for fruitfulness in God's Kingdom
- How can the Head and Heart be changed!!?
- Write down your answer!!!



Jesus Second Interpretive 'Key'

- What brings about the Condition for fruitfulness in God's Kingdom
- We hear & hear & not understand– Mt Mk & Lk
- We see & see & not perceive – Mt Mk & Lk
- It's a 'Secret' and it's 'Hidden'



Jesus Second Interpretive 'Key'

- What brings about this Kingdom Condition?
- Do you bring a lamp to put it under a bowl... don't you put it upon it's stand? For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open. Mk 4 v 21-22/Lk 8 v 16-17 - **It's Revelation!**
- Consider carefully how you listen. With the measure you use it will be measured to you - and even more. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken away. Mk 4 v 24-5/Lk 8 v 18 - **It's Grace!**
- **It's a Revelation of Grace!!**



Jesus Second Interpretive 'Key'

- What brings about the Condition for fruitfulness in God's Kingdom
- Only by divine "Revelation"! – Lk 8 v 16-17
- Only by the intervention of "Grace"! Lk 8 v 18
- It's a Revelation of Grace!! Foolish to world



Jesus Third Interpretive 'Key'

- What's the Outcome of this Kingdom Condition?
- When the Head and Heart are changed!!?
- Write down your answer!!!



Jesus Third Interpretive 'Key'

- What's the Outcome of this Kingdom Condition?
- We can "turn" & be healed! – Matt 13 v 15
- We can "turn" & be forgiven! – Mark 4 v 12
- We're healed & forgiven - by Revelation & Grace!

Truths that echo through all Jesus' teaching

- Building on 'Sand' or on 'Rock'
- Enter by a narrow or a wide door/path
- Hidden treasure/Pearl – sell all to obtain
- Prodigal Father & two sons – can't see/perceive



Application 1 – Our Discipleship?

- Each step should follow 'Revelation'
- It starts, continues and ends with GRACE!
- To Grow; to Overcome; to Bear Fruit
- It's the Gospel "Seed!"



Application 2 – Our Disciple-Making

- Discerning – Hungry Heart & Enquiring Mind ... that's "People of Peace!" – investing there?
- Prioritise Revelation and GRACE!
- Prayer & dependence on "Lord of the Harvest"
- Freedom v Pressure/We're subordinate Partners



Breakout Group Sharing

- What has God shown you or underlined from the Parable of Sower & Seed?
- Where in your discipleship can you grow in Grace?
- In making disciples – How could more Revelation & Grace help?
- How's the balance between you and your Lead Partner?

