

March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Kingdom Parables



Many people came to hear Jesus teach. He told stories, called parables, to help them learn about God's Kingdom. The disciples didn't understand the stories at first, but Jesus said they were blessed because they could learn the truth.



Jesus the first parable: “God’s kingdom is like a mustard seed that a man planted in his field. It is the smallest seed, but it grows taller than the garden plants. The seed becomes a tree, and the birds build nests in its branches.”



Then Jesus said, “God’s kingdom is like leaven, or yeast, that a woman mixed into flour. The leaven makes the dough rise.”



Jesus told another parable: “God’s kingdom is like a treasure buried in a field. A man found the treasure and buried it again. Then he joyfully sold everything he had and bought that field.”



Jesus said, “God’s kingdom is like a man looking for beautiful pearls. When he found one very valuable pearl, he sold everything he had and bought it.” When Jesus finished teaching the crowds, He left that place and went to His hometown.

1. Who used stories to teach people about God’s kingdom? (*Jesus*)
2. What were these stories called? (*parables*)
3. Did everyone understand the parables? (*no*)
4. How is God’s kingdom like a mustard seed? (*It started small but grew large.*)
5. **How does God care for His creation?** God loves and rules over all He made.

#### **Gospel Gems:**

Jesus told people what God’s kingdom is like.

God’s kingdom is worth giving everything for.

Everyone who trusts in Jesus is part of God’s kingdom.

March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Three Parables



The religious leaders did not think Jesus should be friends with people who do wrong things. So, Jesus told them three parables, or stories, to teach them about God.



In the first story, Jesus said, “If a man has 100 sheep and one goes missing, he leaves the 99 sheep and looks everywhere for his lost sheep. He celebrates when he find the sheep!”

Jesus told them, “In heaven, there will be much joy when one is sorry for their sin”



Jesus told a second story: “If a woman has 10 silver coins and loses one of them, she lights a lamp, sweeps the house, and searches until she finds it. She then celebrates!”

Jesus said, “In heaven, God’s angels will celebrate when one person is sorry for his sin and turns back to God.”



Jesus told a third story: “A man had two sons. The younger son went far away with his father’s money. Soon he had nothing. He worked feeding pigs, and felt sorry for what he had done. He went home to ask for forgiveness.

When his father saw him he ran and gave the son a big hug. The father was so happy! They threw a huge party for the lost son.



The older son who had stayed with his father did not want to celebrate. “Why don’t you throw me a party” the older son asked. The father said, “Everything I have is yours. But today we celebrate because your brother was lost, and now he is found.” Jesus looks for people who are lost.

1. Who used stories to teach people about God’s kingdom? (*Jesus*)
2. What were these stories called? (*parables*)
3. Did everyone understand the parables? (*no*)
4. How is God’s kingdom like a mustard seed? (*It started small but grew large.*)
5. How does God care for His creation? *God loves and rules over all He made.*

**Gospel Gems:**

Jesus told stories about God’s love.

The father was happy when his son came home.

God is happy when sinners trust Jesus.

March 15<sup>th</sup>  
Jesus' Hard Teachings



A crowd of people gathered around Jesus. They found Him on the other side of the sea. Jesus told them, “You are looking for Me because I gave you food.”



The people asked, “What does God want us to do?”  
Jesus said, “Believe in the One God sent.” The  
people wanted Jesus to do another miracle. The  
people wanted bread from heaven like Moses and  
the Israelites got in the wilderness.



Jesus said, “God gives true bread from heaven. I am the Bread of Life. Everyone who comes to Me will never be hungry or thirsty.” Jesus said God sent Him to give eternal life.



Some people didn't like what Jesus said. When Jesus said this, many of His followers said, "This teaching is hard. Who can believe it?" and they stopped following Jesus. Jesus asked His twelve disciples, "Do you want to go too?" Peter said, "Lord, You have the words of life. We believe You are God's Holy One."

1. **What did the people want from Jesus?** (*bread*)
2. **Who is the bread of life?** (*Jesus*)
3. **Where did Jesus say He came from?** (*heaven*)
4. **How does God care for His creation?** *God loves and rules over all He made.*

#### **Gospel Gems:**

People wanted Jesus to give them bread from heaven.

Jesus said He is the bread of life.

Anyone who believes in Jesus will have life forever.

March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Jesus Raised Lazarus



Lazarus and Jesus were friends. One day, Lazarus got sick. His sisters, Mary and Martha, sent a message to Jesus. Jesus said to the disciples, “Lazarus’ sickness will not end in death. This sickness will show how great God is and how great the Son of God is.”



By the time Jesus got to the place Lazarus lived, he was dead and had been buried in a tomb for four days. Martha met Jesus and said, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother Lazarus would not have died.” But Martha knew Jesus could do a miracle.



Then Martha went home to get her sister, Mary.  
Mary came and fell at Jesus' feet. She was so sad and  
she cried. Jesus cried too.



Mary took Jesus to the cave where Lazarus was buried. A big stone covered the opening. Jesus told the people to move the stone. Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.” Then Jesus shouted, “Lazarus, come out!”



Lazarus came out of the tomb, wrapped in cloth. **He was alive!** Jesus said, “Unwrap him and let him go.” With God’s help, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus did miracles that brought God glory.

1. Which friend of Jesus got sick and died? (*Lazarus*)
2. How long was Lazarus in the tomb? (*four days*)
3. Does Jesus have power over death? (*yes*)
4. ***How does God care for His creation?*** God loves and rules over all He made.

### Gospel Gems:

Jesus’ friend Lazarus was very sick.

Jesus made Lazarus alive again.

Those who trust in Jesus will live forever with Him.

March 29<sup>th</sup>  
The Last Supper/Palm  
Sunday



The night before He died, Jesus ate a special meal with His friends. The meal was called Passover. Passover was a celebration that happened every year for God's people to remember how God freed them from slavery in Egypt.



At the meal, Jesus told His friends about God's plan to rescue people who broke His special promise. Jesus would be taken away. People would put Jesus on a cross even though He did nothing wrong.



Jesus' friends were sad, but Jesus gave them good news. "God will make Me alive again," Jesus said.



Jesus took the bread, broke it into pieces, and gave it to His friends. Then He took the cup, thanked God for it, and gave it to His friends. Jesus said, “I am making a new, better promise. When you eat this special meal, remember what I did for you.”

1. **Why did God's people celebrate the Passover?** *(Because God saved them from slavery in Egypt)*
2. **Who was at the Passover meal with Jesus?** *(his friends)*
3. **What did Jesus say the bread and wine represented?** *(Jesus' body sacrificed for us)*
4. ***What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.***

#### **Gospel Gems:**

Jesus ate a special meal with His friends.

Jesus told His friends about God's plan.

Jesus told His friends to remember what He did for them.