



# THE PARABLES

STUMO AT SMU

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>5</b>	The Well ( <i>Satisfaction</i> )
<b>15</b>	The Rich Young Ruler ( <i>Sin</i> )
<b>25</b>	The Prodigal Son ( <i>Forgiveness</i> )
<b>43</b>	The Tenants ( <i>Gospel</i> )
<b>53</b>	The Four Soils ( <i>Faith/Trust</i> )
<b>63</b>	The Great Banquet ( <i>Barriers to Faith</i> )
<b>73</b>	The 30 Day Challenge

This can be a 4-6 week study. If you want it to be 4 weeks then cut the Well and just do the Rich Young Ruler through the Four Soils. After the first week it would be a good idea to point out the 30 Day Challenge and challenge everyone in the group to go through that together. This would be a good opportunity to meet up with students in the study throughout the week to do a devotional time with them individually or in pairs.

## THE WELL / JEREMIAH 2:13 / *Leader's guide*

**OBJECTIVE:** For students to see that we all pour our time and energy into things that ultimately won't fully satisfy.

**KICKOFF:** When you think back on your time in college after 4 years, what will it take for you to say it was a success?

*Transition:* We all want to be successful. We're going to look at what the Bible says brings success and true satisfaction.

**HAVE THEM READ THIS STATEMENT:** "PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE."

- Would you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
- What are some adjectives people would use to describe someone that has a satisfying life in college? (*happiness, security, satisfaction, identity, love, respect, purpose, etc.*)

### THESE BOXES REPRESENT AREAS OF OUR LIFE WE POUR TIME AND ENERGY INTO

- What are some of the things people pour themselves into to quench their thirst, or to find the satisfying life that we just talked about? (*relationships, money, partying, career, sex, family, religion, politics, fraternity/sorority – give personal illustration for an applicable box*)

GIRLS	ALCOHOL/ PARTIES	ACADEMICS	MONEY/ WEALTH	FAMILY	FRIENDS	CAREER
-------	---------------------	-----------	------------------	--------	---------	--------

- Write these in the boxes as they are listed. Be sure to point out that the things listed are not bad or immoral in and of themselves, but that they were never meant to be our source of life.

### WATCH TOM BRADY CLIP OR READ MADONNA QUOTE

1. Youtube: Tom Brady - There has to be more than this (1:32) [youtube.com/watch?v=4HeLYQaZQW0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HeLYQaZQW0)

2. Madonna Quote on never finding success: "I have an iron will, and all of my will has always been to conquer some horrible feeling of inadequacy...I push past one spell of it and discover myself as a special human being and then I get to another stage and think I'm mediocre and uninteresting...Again and again. My drive in life is from this horrible fear of being mediocre. And that's always pushing me, pushing me. Because even though I've become Somebody, I still have to prove that I'm Somebody. My struggle has never ended and it probably never will."

- What is the Answer? What would you tell Tom or Madonna?

*Transition:* The Bible actually talks about this. (referring to how they weren't meant to bring life)

**HAVE THEM READ THE VERSE:** “MY PEOPLE HAVE COMMITTED TWO SINS: THEY HAVE FORSAKEN ME, THE SPRING OF LIVING WATER, AND HAVE DUG THEIR OWN CISTERNS, BROKEN CISTERNS THAT CANNOT HOLD WATER.” - JEREMIAH 2:13

### **UNDERLINE KEY WORDS**

We’re going to look at some key words. Underline these words as you go defining and discussing them:

**TWO SINS** – What are the two sins the people have committed against God? (*forsaken Him, dug their own cisterns*)

**FORSAKEN** – What does forsaken mean? (*abandon, leave, etc.*)

**DUG** – What does digging require? (*Work, tools, money, EFFORT*)

**CISTERNS** – Have you ever heard of a cistern? Do you know what it is? (*a huge container that holds water, a big pot*)

How are the cisterns described?

**BROKEN** – What happens to the water in a broken pot?” (*water leaks out, useless*) Draw a crack through each of the ‘wells’/boxes).

### **GO BACK TO THE BOXES**

Tell them “these are cisterns.” They are things we pour our life into but they leak. Remind them that there is nothing wrong with (most) of these things by themselves but they were never meant to give us life.

- Which two do you look for the most to find life in? How have they failed you? *Share personal illustration*
- What will happen to your life if you continue to try to find it in these two things? (*it will become dry and empty*)
- How is God described in this passage?

**SPRING** – What is the difference between a spring and a cistern? (*springs produce fresh, clean and healthy water*)

- What do you think it means that God is the spring of Living water? (*It is He who gives life, He who quenches thirst*)
- Do you believe that? Have you seen any examples of how God has provided for you at all or people you know?

Have them draw this spring of living water and how it brings life to the individual and a proper God-centered perspective on each of the other wells as it flows into them. *If appropriate...share personal testimony of turning to God over those cisterns.*

### **CLOSING**

Explain that the purpose of the study will be to learn about God and how we can make him the source of our satisfaction instead of all the other things we’re surrounded with. Explain that we’re going to do a 4 week study over some parables, or short stories that Jesus told to try and look at how they are relevant to our lives and can help make us more successful college students.

## THE WELL

**“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”**

--	--	--	--	--	--

### **JEREMIAH 2:13**

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

## THE WELL

**“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”**

--	--	--	--	--	--

### **JEREMIAH 2:13**

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

## THE WELL

“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”

--	--	--	--	--	--

### JEREMIAH 2:13

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

## THE WELL

“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”

--	--	--	--	--	--

### JEREMIAH 2:13

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

## THE WELL

“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”

--	--	--	--	--	--

### JEREMIAH 2:13

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

## THE WELL

“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”

--	--	--	--	--	--

### JEREMIAH 2:13

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

## THE WELL

**“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”**

--	--	--	--	--	--

### **JEREMIAH 2:13**

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

## THE WELL

**“PEOPLE ARE THIRSTY. LIKE A MAN IN A DESERT, WE WILL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO QUENCH THAT THIRST. THEY WILL FOLLOW, GIVE THEMSELVES TO, AND TRUST IN WHATEVER THEY BELIEVE WILL SATISFY THEM AND WILL GIVE THEM LIFE.”**

--	--	--	--	--	--

### **JEREMIAH 2:13**

**13** My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.



# THE RICH YOUNG RULER / MATT 19:16-22 / *Leader's guide*

**OBJECTIVE:** We want students to understand that there are things in life that take priority over their relationship with God. The Bible calls this sin, and we all commit sin.

## REVIEW LAST WEEK (THE WELL)

• What was the main takeaway? (*things we prioritize in life over relationship with God will ultimately leave us dissatisfied*)

**KICK OFF:** What's your proudest moment/greatest accomplishment in sports, in life, etc? How did it make you feel?

The Story is called Rich Young Ruler. Just hearing that, what do we have in common with this guy?

- **RICH** - compared to most of the world we are wealthy
- **YOUNG** - we are relatively young
- **RULER** - he had influence. We are at an influential school, etc.

## HAVE THEM READ THE PARABLE

- What question does the young man ask of Jesus? (*What good thing must I do to get eternal life?*)
- Knowing a little about his life, why do you think he would he ask Jesus that question? (*maybe he had everything, but wasn't satisfied – sound familiar to last week?*)
- If someone asked you that question, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?”, what would you tell them? *A lot of people might say...”be a good person.”* Jesus is going to evaluate if that is possible or if that is all it takes
- What is Jesus' response in v. 18? What is he referring to? (*Lists some of the commandments*)
- What was the young man's response? (*All these I have kept.*)
- The man said he had kept all the commandments. Do you believe him? Where do we stack up? Let's take a look at a couple.

**Murder:** Reference Matt. 5

**Adultery:** Reference Matt. 5

**Stealing, Lying, Honoring father/mother, Loving your neighbor as yourself**

- What does Jesus tell the man to do in v. 21? (*sell all, give to poor, & follow him*)
- What does he mean by this? If he does this will he have eternal life? Is there a deeper purpose to what Jesus is saying?

Explain that Jesus knew that the man had a love of money, and he was exposing the man's greed as the **ONE BIG THING** that kept him from truly following God. All of us have **SOMETHING** that gets in the way of us following Christ.

• At SMU, what do you think are some of the things that keep your friends from following God? (*money, relationships, partying, family, school*) – amazing how similar it is to cisterns before.

• What would you say if Jesus said to you, “Hey one thing you lack, give up \_\_\_\_\_ for this semester and come follow me?” Could you do it? Why is it so hard?

• Examine this area of your life and see how much time and thoughts this takes up in your life.

*Idea, I don't want to be like the rich young man. What if we gave up a little of that time this week to come and follow Jesus a little bit. Read one chapter per day.*

## THE RICH YOUNG RULER

### MATTHEW 19:16-22

**16** Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Good Teacher, what thing must I do to get eternal life?” **17** “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments.” **18** “Which ones?” the man inquired. Jesus replied, “ ‘Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, **19** honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” **20** “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?” **21** Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” **22** When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

## THE RICH YOUNG RULER

### MATTHEW 19:16-22

**16** Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Good Teacher, what thing must I do to get eternal life?” **17** “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments.” **18** “Which ones?” the man inquired. Jesus replied, “ ‘Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, **19** honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” **20** “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?” **21** Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” **22** When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

# THE PRODIGAL SON / LUKE 15:11-32 / *Leader's guide*

**OBJECTIVE:** We want guys to understand that there is forgiveness despite our sin.

**THEMES:** Forgiveness

**REVIEW PREVIOUS WEEKS:** What was the main takeaway from each study?

- **Well** *Things we prioritize in life over our relationship with God will ultimately leave us dissatisfied.*
- **Rich Young Ruler** *We all are prioritizing or have prioritized something before God. The Bible refers to this as sin, and we all do it.*

**KICK-OFF:** What is the best trip you have ever been on?

## HAVE THEM READ THE PARABLE

- What characters does Jesus use in the story? (*Just setting the stage- Father and two sons*)
- Who does the father represent in this story? (*God*)
- Who do the brothers represent in the story? (*wild, rebellious types and conservative, religious types*)
  
- How does Jesus start off the story? (*The younger son asks for inheritance*)
- When do you usually receive an inheritance?
- What do you think it then meant to the father when the younger son asked for his inheritance? (*He wanted him dead*)
- How do you think you would respond if your son came to you and asked this? How did the father respond?
  
- When the young man got his inheritance, what does the passage say he did?
- What do you think some of the wild living might have looked like?
- Have you ever blown a ton of money? Or seen people blow a ton of money? (*Famous peoples children, Lottery winners*)
  
- Once his money ran out, what did he do? (*Went to tend to pigs*)
- How satisfying was working for this citizen? Why?
- What did it say he longed for?
  
- In vs 17, what did he realize when he came to his senses? (*His father's house was far better than where he currently was*)
- How do you think the son felt as he was walking home to meet his father? (*Nervous on how his father would receive him, ashamed, etc*) – Have you ever felt fearful to approach God about something?
- What was the son's response when he first saw the father? (*If they don't say, ask for forgiveness, ask this:*  
What type of reaction would you classify this as? (*Asking for forgiveness*))

- What was the father's reaction to seeing the son? (*Ran to meet and embrace him, didn't even let the son finish his apology*)
- After the son asked for forgiveness, what did he have to do to get fully right with his father? (*Nothing*)
- Why not? – (*Because the Father loved him and accepted him.*)
- How does this picture of God relate to how you typically think of Him? What do we learn about God from this story?
  
- What did the father say in v. 24? (*He was lost and now he is found*)
- Why do you think his father said this?
- At what point in the story do you think the father welcomed the son back? (*When he came home*)
- What kept the son and what keeps us from immediately coming home?
  
- Where do you think you are in the story? (*still at home, partying, in the pit, on the way back?*)
- How does this story impact how you will approach God in the future? What is something you can do to come back to God?

**CONCLUSION:** Last week we talked about how sin keeps us from God. In thinking of our relationship before God, the first step in that process is to acknowledge our wrongdoing. Next week we will talk more about that.

# THE PRODIGAL SON

## LUKE 15:11-32

**11** Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. **12** The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. **13** “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. **14** After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. **15** So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. **16** He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. **17** “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! **18** I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. **19** I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.’ **20** So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. **21** “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ **22** “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. **23** Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. **24** For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate. **25** “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. **26** So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. **27** ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ **28** “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. **29** But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. **30** But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ **31** “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. **32** But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

## PARABLE OF THE TENANTS / MATT 21:33-46 / *Leader's guide*

**OBJECTIVE:** Students to know that forgiveness is offered, but only through the death of God's son.

**REVIEW PREVIOUS WEEKS:** What was the main takeaway from each study?

- **Well** *Things we prioritize in life over our relationship with God will ultimately leave us dissatisfied.*
- **Rich Young Ruler** *We all are prioritizing or have prioritized something before God. The Bible refers to this as sin, and we all do it.*
- **Prodigal Son** *We all sin, but God is a forgiving God and wants us to return to him.*

**KICK OFF:** What's the biggest responsibility you've been given?

*Transition:* Let's look at a story about the responsibility of what we do when God sends His Son

**HAVE THEM READ THE PARABLE** (Context: Jesus' last week of life. Religious leaders want to get rid of Jesus.)

- Why would the religious leaders want to get rid of Jesus?
- Just like the Book of Eli... they want control of people through rules. Loved themselves not God.
- What do you think the landowner represents? (*God*) What do you think the tenants represent? (*religious people/us*)  
What does the vineyard represent? (*God's blessing, teaching, gifts to us*)
- What did the tenants do to the servants?
- In our context in college, what are some ways you see people reject God with our attitudes, thoughts, or actions?  
(*disobey repeatedly, not be grateful, sin against him, etc.*)
- How did the landowner (God) respond? (*sent more servants- aka prophets to teach people about God (Matt 23:37, Jer 20:1-2, 1 Kgs 18:4)*)
- What is the first question that comes to mind when you hear this? What would you have done after you sent the first servants?
- What do you think it shows about God's character by sending more servants? (*Slow to anger, Patience, He pursues us*)
- Can you think of any ways you feel like God has showed you patience or pursued you in your life through circumstances or other people?
- What was the landowner's final move? (*To send his son*)
- Why would he send his son? Do you think this was foolish? What did it show?

At first reading, it may have seemed dumb for the landowner to send his son because of previous behavior. However, It showed patience and hope that the tenants would respond properly to the rep. with the greatest authority. (Heb 1:1-2)

• What does the capstone represent? (Isaiah 8:14, Isaiah 28, Romans 9:32, 1 Peter 2:4-10)

• What did the people on earth do to God's actual son? How does this story parallel that?

**RECAP:** We looked in the past weeks that we all prioritize things over God (sin), that God makes a way for sin to be forgiven, and that God's ultimate offer of forgiveness was to send his son.

• Explain that although the story doesn't show it, Jesus had to die for our sin.

• Read Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this, while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

• We've all probably heard about Jesus dying on the cross, but does anyone know why Jesus would have had to die for our sin?

• Romans 6:23 says the wages of sin is death. Someone had to pay. God sent His Son to pay for our sin. A relationship with God is a free gift to be received by faith.

• In v. 43, what happens to those who reject God's Son?

*The opportunity to receive Him is taken away and given to another people*

*There is a necessary response. We'll look at that next week.*

• What would it look like to respond to Jesus by faith?

*Could use this as a great opportunity to process through the Gospel more 1-1 with students in the study.*



## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS

### MATTHEW 21:33-46

**33** “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. **34** When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. **35** “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. **36** Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. **37** Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. **38** “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ **39** So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” **41** “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” **42** Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?’ **43** “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. **46** They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS / LUKE 8:4-15 / *Leader's guide*

**OBJECTIVE:** We want guys to know that there is a personal response that they must make to the Gospel in their lives, and they are one of 4 types of soil.

**REVIEW PREVIOUS WEEKS:** What was the main takeaway from each study?

- **Well** *Things we prioritize in life over our relationship with God will ultimately leave us dissatisfied.*
- **Rich Young Ruler** *We all are prioritizing or have prioritized something before God. The Bible refers to this as sin, and we all do it.*
- **Prodigal Son** *We all sin, but God is a forgiving God and wants us to return to him.*
- **Tenants** *The way that God allows us to return to him is through the belief in his Son and what his death means for us.*

**KICKOFF:** \_\_\_\_\_? (try to come up with your own this week)

### READ VERSES 4-10 OF THE PARABLE OUT LOUD

- What were the people doing when he told this parable? (*Coming to him*)
- Why do you think they were coming? (*He was feeding people, healing people*)
- What are some reasons people are interested in following Christ today?

Read 2 Examples from the Bible: (*have people look up on phone*)

John 1:43-36 – Phillip tells Nathanael to come and see (*People talk about Jesus*)

Matt 11:28-29 – Come to me all you who are weary... (*He helps us*)

- Has anyone ever shared the Gospel?
- How many types of surfaces did the seed fall on? What were they? (*4: path, rock, thorns, good soil*)

The next set of verses is about to explain what everything means, but before looking lets take a stab at it.

- What do you think the seed represents?
- What does the soil represent?

### READ VERSES 11-15

- What do you think the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God is? (*the way to eternal life*)
- So what is the seed (v. 11)?

- What do the different surfaces represent (v. 12-15)? (*Differing heart conditions. Hard heart (path) to gradual softer hearts (good soil)*)
- What type of surface do you think your heart represents right now? Why?
- What would it look like for someone's heart to become like the good soil?
- Receive a gift...Romans 6:23 – gift of God...

Explain turn and trust. Ask what they think each represents...

**RECAP:** We looked in the past that we all prioritize things over God (sin), that God makes a way for sin to be forgiven, and that God's plan of forgiveness was to send his son to die for our sins. This week, we learn that in order to get that forgiveness, our hearts must become like the good soil by turning and trusting.

**KEEP GOING?:**

- Do you want to keep going? What would you like to look at next?

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.



## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS

### LUKE 8:4-15

**4** While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: **5** “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. **6** Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” **9** His disciples asked him what this parable meant. **10** He said, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, though seeing, they may not see; though learning, they may not understand.”

**11** This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life’s worries, riches and pleasures and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

## THE GREAT BANQUET / LUKE 14:15-24 / *Leader's guide*

**OBJECTIVE:** To identify excuses for not trusting Christ and coming into the Kingdom

**REVIEW PREVIOUS WEEKS:** What was the main takeaway from each study?

- **Well** *Things we prioritize in life over our relationship with God will ultimately leave us dissatisfied.*
- **Rich Young Ruler** *We all are prioritizing or have prioritized something before God. The Bible refers to this as sin, and we all do it.*
- **Prodigal Son** *We all sin, but God is a forgiving God and wants us to return to him.*
- **Tenants** *The way that God allows us to return to him is through the belief in his Son and what his death means for us.*
- **Four Soils** *There's a personal response we must make to the Gospel in our lives.*

**KICK OFF:** What is the best party you guys have ever been to?

*Transition:* We're going to look at a story where Jesus tells about how the kingdom of heaven is like a huge party being thrown in honor of someone else.

### READ LUKE 14:15-24

- In v. 16-17 what is this man getting ready for? *(to throw a party)*
- What is he doing to get ready for this? *(He got the feast ready, and sent a servant to invite everybody to the party)*
- If your this guy what are you wanting to happen? *(Peeps to roll out to my party, it to be awesome)*
- How is this story similar to what God has done by? *(We were separated from God but He's prepared a party and a feast for us to be restored to Him, and he sent us a messenger to invite us-Jesus, who died on the cross and rose from the dead so we can come to God's party to be with him forever.)*
- Optional: Revelation 19:9 - "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."
- In v. 18-20 what kept people from coming to the banquet? *(they all had excuses)*

People are invited but they have to ACCEPT the invitation. Same way with Christ. He died on the cross for us for our sins but we have to trust Christ to receive the gift.

- How many different excuses do we see here & what were they? *(3)*

• What are some of OUR excuses that keep us from coming to the party God has prepared for you? (*I'll do it later, relationships, school, etc.*)

—> Good place for you to share your testimony of turning from your excuse to come to Christ and follow Him

• What was the man's response to the people's excuses in v. 21? (*He was angry*)

• What happens in v. 21-22? (*The servant goes and invites everybody*)

• What does the man want to happen in v. 23? (*He wants people to fill his party*)

• How is this like God? (*He wants people to come into the kingdom*)

• What do we learn about God's character in this story?

• What does this man say about the original men he invited? (*They will not come into the banquet*)

• What does this mean for us? (*We are responsible for our decision. If we are using excuses why we don't pursue our relationship with God we are not going to enter into the kingdom*)

• What excuse do you need to drop this week? How can you do that? (*They need to do something they don't normally do, its going to be uncomfortable*)

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

## THE PARABLE OF THE GREAT BANQUET

**LUKE 14:15-24**

**15** When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” **16** But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. **17** And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ **18** But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ **19** And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ **20** And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ **21** So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ **22** And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ **23** And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. **24** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”



# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13

# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13

# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13

# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13

# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13

# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13

# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13

# THE 30 DAY CHALLENGE

## WRITE ON YOUR SHEETS OR IN A NOTEBOOK:

- Day:
- Date:
- Scripture Reference:

## WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- Read the verse(s) for the day a couple of times
- In one or two sentences, answer the following questions:
  - What does it say about God/Jesus?
  - What does it say about man/people?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN MY LIFE? HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

- In one or two sentences write out how the verse(s) you read should impact you.
- What will you think or do differently in your life because of what you read?

DAY	VERSE(S)
1	Ephesians 2:8-9
2	Galatians 2:16
3	Titus 3:5-7
4	John 6:28-29
5	Galatians 2:20-21
6	1 John 5:11-12
7	John 3:34-36
8	Romans 6:23
9	John 3:16-18
10	John 1:10-12
11	Romans 5:8-9
12	Romans 10:9-11
13	John 5:24
14	John 12:5-6
15	1 Peter 3:18

DAY	VERSE(S)
16	Hebrews 4:12
17	2 Timothy 3:16-17
18	Joshua 1:8
19	Isaiah 40:7-8
20	Matthew 24:34-25
21	Psalms 1:1-3
22	Philippians 4:6-7
23	Matthew 7:7-11
24	John 16:23-24
25	John 15:5-7
26	Mark 11:24-25
27	James 1:5-6
28	1 John 5:14-15
29	James 4:2-3
30	Matthew 6:9-13