

Partners and Parables



MEMORY VERSE: "Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path."
Psalm 119:105



MARK 3:13-19 Jesus' Disciples

1. What did Jesus want His apostles, or disciples, to do? vv. 13-14 If you are following Jesus, you are also His disciple. What do you think He wants of you?
2. How were the disciples able to do what Jesus wanted? v. 15 How does it effect you to know that you too were chosen and given the Holy Spirit's power?
3. What were the 12 apostles' names? vv. 16-19 Who are some people in your life (like the disciples) that have helped you learn about Jesus?



MARK 4:1-10, 14-20 Parable of the Seed and Soil

4. A parable is a simple story that teaches a lesson. Jesus told lots of parables about who He is and who we are. The seed in this parable represents the Word of God, the Bible. What did Jesus say happens when the Word of God falls on:
Footpath v. 15
Rocky ground vv. 16-17
Among thorns vv. 18-19
Fertile Soil v. 20
5. Are you willing to let God's Word grow in you? How will you do that?



6. What do you think we can do about the things that threaten to prevent God’s Word from taking root in our lives?



MARK 4:30-34 Parable about God’s Kingdom

7. What kind of seed is used to describe the Kingdom of God? Why? vv. 30-32

8. What do you think Jesus is trying to tell us through this parable?

9. Like the disciples, we do not always understand what we read in the Bible. What do you think we can do when this happens?

BELIEVE THE TRUTH

God has given us His Word so we can know His heart and love for us and live abundant and powerful lives. The Bible does not make sense to people who oppose God, and sometimes even His followers are confused by it, but He wants us to understand. Faith means believing that God is good, that His Word is true and trusting that His ways and commands are for our benefit.

“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.” James 1:5

PRAY THE TRUTH

Jesus, thank You for the wonderful stories in the Bible that You put there to teach me Your powerful truth! Help that truth grow in my heart like a seed in good ground so that I can grow to be more and more like You! As I grow in my relationship with you, help me to share what I am learning with others. Amen.

WALK IN TRUTH



What did this lesson teach you about hearing God’s Word and spreading its Message?





Mark 3:13-19; 4:1-10, 14-20; 4:30-34 (NLT)

Jesus Chooses the Twelve Apostles

13 Afterward Jesus went up on a mountain and called out the ones he wanted to go with him. And they came to him. 14 Then he appointed twelve of them and called them his apostles. They were to accompany him, and he would send them out to preach, 15 giving them authority to cast out demons. 16 These are the twelve he chose: Simon (whom he named Peter), 17 James and John (the sons of Zebedee, but Jesus nicknamed them “Sons of Thunder”), 18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Thaddaeus, Simon (the zealot), 19 Judas Iscariot (who later betrayed him).

Parable of the Farmer Scattering Seed

1 Once again Jesus began teaching by the lakeshore. A very large crowd soon gathered around him, so he got into a boat. Then he sat in the boat while all the people remained on the shore. 2 He taught them by telling many stories in the form of parables, such as this one: 3 “Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed. 4 As he scattered it across his field, some of the seed fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate it. 5 Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. 6 But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn’t have deep roots, it died. 7 Other seed fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants so they produced no grain. 8 Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they sprouted, grew, and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted!” 9 Then he said, “Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.” 10 Later, when Jesus was alone with the twelve disciples and with the others who were gathered around, they asked him what the parables meant.

14 The farmer plants seed by taking God’s word to others. 15 The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away. 16 The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. 17 But since they don’t have deep roots, they don’t last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God’s word. 18 The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God’s word, 19 but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced. 20 And the seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God’s word and

Parable of the Mustard Seed

30 Jesus said, “How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it? 31 It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, 32 but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches, and birds can make nests in its shade.” 33 Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand. 34 In fact, in his public ministry he never taught without using parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

Faith: believing God is real; having total confidence in Him; accepting God’s Word as fact; deciding to surrender and live your life to follow Jesus.

Disciple: “student”; a learner. Disciples of Jesus Christ trust, believe and follow His Words and example.

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