

Parables | July 4-11, 2021

DISCUSSION GUIDE

KEY BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 13:10-17; 34-35

Icebreaker Question: What is a story you heard growing up that inspired you? How do stories inspire us and how does this relate to parables?

Read Matthew 13:10

- How does it make you feel to read about the disciples asking a question about something they didn't understand and that Jesus was willing to answer? What does this say to how we interact with the Lord?
- What is something that you are struggling to understand that you would hope for God to reveal the answer? Why might God delay in revealing things to us?

Read Matthew 13:11-15

- Why do you think that the disciples asked Jesus why He taught in parables?
- Why did Jesus say he taught in parables? (See also [Matthew 13:34-35](#))
- In vv.16-17, what does Jesus say about how the disciples should feel about what they are seeing and hearing?
- What do people in our culture long to see and hear? What makes the difference in whether they are willing to see and hear Jesus?

Jesus said the secrets were not given to unbelievers to know.

- What did he mean? How did you experience this before you were saved? What does this tell us about the role God must play in our lives before we can understand?

Jesus promised that those who do not have will lose what little they have.

- What is it that they don't have? What is it that they lose? (*note the context of v.11*)
- What would it take for an unbeliever to begin to see and understand? What role does the Spirit play in the lives of believers to help them continue to see and understand? (*see John 16:3; 1 Cor. 2:6-10*)
- What do we learn from Isaiah's prophecy about why people cannot understand or perceive? Why is hardness of heart so dangerous?
- What should be our response to being able to see and hear? What must we do for those who cannot see or hear?
- Discuss, and pray for one another for boldness in Christ to share what you have seen and heard with someone who needs to see and hear the truth about the King.



PRAYER



CARE



EVENTS