

20 Parables on Responsibility (and more)

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. Matt 20:1

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Lk 10:2

Recap "Parables on Prayer"

- 84-85 Lazarus Raised - The Sanhedrin
- 86. Healing the 10 Lepers
- 87. Parable: The Persistent Widow
- 88. Parable: Pharisee & Publican Prayer
- 89. Perea & the Pharisee Question on Divorce
- 90. Blessing the Children
- 91. The Rich Young Ruler

#89 Return to Judea (Perea) Mt 19:1-2

1 When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went into the region of Judea to the other side of the Jordan.

2 Large crowds followed him...



#89 Pharisee Question: Divorce Mt 19:3-8

3 "Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?'"

4 "Haven't you read," he replied, 'that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female ...'"

6 "... Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

7 "Why then ... did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?"

8 "Jesus replied, 'Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning.'"

#89 God's Divorce Rule Mt 19:9

"I hate divorce," says the Lord God of Israel" Mal 2:16

"I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."

"The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'" Gen 2:18

How does a "throw away" society influence divorce?

Why is it "not good" for the man to be alone?

- To think of others' needs.
- To learn to make peace.
- To experience love.

What does this have to do with God's teaching on divorce?

#90 Jesus Blesses the Children Mt 19:13-15

13 "People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them."

14 "When Jesus saw this, he was indignant ... 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them....'"

15 "I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

16 "And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them."

✚ **How do you enter the kingdom like a child?**

✚ **Innocence • Awe • Trust**

#91a The Rich Young Ruler Mk 10:17-21

✚ **Why is it hard for the rich to enter the kingdom?**

21 "Jesus looked at him and loved him. 'One thing you lack,' he said. 'Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.'"

17 "... 'Good teacher... what must I do to inherit eternal life?'"

18 "You know the commandments..."

20 "...all these I have kept since I was a boy."

#91b He Went Away Sad Mk 10:22-26

22 "... 'he went away sad, because he had great wealth.'"

23 "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.'"

25 "When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, 'Who then can be saved?'"

✚ **Life Lesson: For those who turn away from God, the sadness is greater than they know.**

26 "... 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

#91c "We Have Left Everything" Mk 10:28-31
(Peter spoke for them all)

"We have left everything to follow you!"

29 "I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel 30 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age... and in the age to come, eternal life."

✚ **Life Lesson: Those who have salvation, have 'everything'. They have left nothing of value!**

Today -

"Parables on Responsibility"

#92 Parable: Workers in the Vineyard

#93 Jesus' Impending Death

#94 The Ambition of James & John

#95 Blind Bartimaeus Healed (with a companion)

#96 Zacchaeus

#97 Parable about Diligence

#92 Parable of Workers in the Vineyard - Mt 20:1-16

11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.

✚ **What responsibility does this parable call for?**

✚ **What perceived inequality is complained about today?**

✚ **Life Lesson: God gives 2nd chances. Praise God!!!**

14 "Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you."

15 "Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?"

#93 Jesus' Impending Death Mk 10:32-34

"I lay down my life — only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it."

Why was Jesus' death so hard for them to grasp?

They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him.

33 "We are going up to Jerusalem," he said, "and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, 34 who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise."

#94 The Ambition of James & John Mk 10:35-45

Life Lesson: Holding office includes sacrifice!

35 "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

37 "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

Mt 20:21 "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom."

38 "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

43 "Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

#95 Blind Bartimaeus Healed Mk 10:46-52

47 "...Jesus, Son of David, Have Mercy on me!"

48 "...but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, Have Mercy on me!"

49 "... "Call him,"

50 "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you."

51 "What do you want me to do for you?"

51 ... The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see."

52 "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you."

Life Lesson: Persistence pays!

#96a Zacchaeus Up A Tree Lk 19:1-4

1 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. 2 A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.

3 "He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd.

4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. 5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up..."

What could Zacchaeus get just from seeing Jesus?

#96b Zacchaeus Meets Jesus Lk 19:5-7

5 "...and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.' 6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly."

7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

What kind of "friendship" with sinners does God bless?

#96c Zacchaeus' Pledge Lk 19:8-10

8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

COMPARE HIM TO THE RICH YOUNG RULER:

What was sought?
- What was given up?
- What was received?

What has Zacchaeus found more valuable than money?

9 Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

#97a Parable about Diligence - 1 Lk 19:11-14

11 While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, **because** he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once.

12 He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return."

What did the nobleman ask to be done with the money?

14 "But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.'"

13 "So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'"

#97 Parable about Diligence - 2 Lk 10:15-19

15 "He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it."

THE EXCEPTIONAL:

16 "The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.'"

17 "Well done, my good servant!" his master replied. "Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities."

THE AVERAGE:

18 The second came and said, "Sir, your mina has earned five more."

19 "His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.'"

#97 Parable about Diligence - 3 Lk 19:20-28

THE SLACKER:

20 Then another servant came and said, "Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. 21 I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man."

22 His master replied, "I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! ...

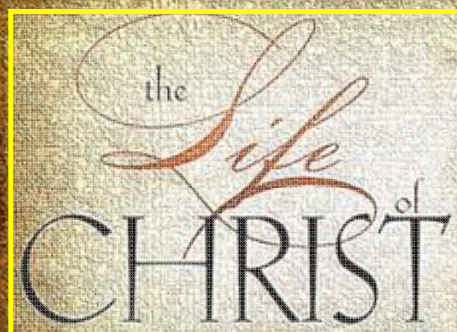
23 Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?"

What's the message to...

- Those seeking first place?
- The slacker?
- Those who opposed the king's appointment?

28 After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

The Synoptic Gospels present:



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