



GENRE: Parable – Read like riddles.

PARABLE READING RULES:

1. Read (Matthew 13:1-9): Describe the context of the parable: To whom is the parable being told and what situation caused it to be told?

The parable is being told to the _____.

2. Read (Matthew 13:1-9): Describe the everyday illustration being used as the parable.

A farmer sows _____ in four different kinds of soil conditions.

3. Read (Matthew 13:18-23): Identify the 'single' Kingdom of God principle being taught.

Discover: Seed grows better in _____ ground.

Reflect: Identify what spoils your soil.

- A. Satan's _____ are described as the 'birds.' Matthew 13:19
- B. The 'stony ground' prevents spiritual roots to grow deep and compounds personal _____. Matthew 13:20-21
- C. _____ pursuits or 'thorns' choke out the Word. Matthew 13:19

Respond: Develop a biblical perspective on these things.

4. Read (Matthew 13:23): Identify the 'Turn' or change in behavior being sought.

Hint: will be found in the closing line of the parable.

Discover: Developing good ground or a receptive heart is our _____.

Reflect: Are you aware of what spoils your soil?

Respond: _____ the things that spoil the soil.

- D. Overcome the 'birds' or Satan's lies by _____ God's Word. 2 Timothy 2:15, John 8:31
- E. Remove the 'stones' and conquer personal tribulations by _____ on God's Word. Psalm 1
- F. Cut out the 'thorns' by replacing worldly pursuits with a desire for _____ to God's Word. 1 Timothy 6:6, 1 Peter 1:15

5. What change in your behavior is the parable challenging?

Determine what steps you need to make in order to prepare your heart to be good soil.



"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood" 1 Peter 2:9-10

Using the guidelines below, here is a daily Bible text for you to READ, REFLECT and RESPOND.

MON – Luke 18:1-8

WED – Luke 14:7-14

FRI – Luke 15:1-10

TUE – Luke 18:9-14

THU – Luke 14:15-24

SAT – Matthew 22:33

SUN – Mark 12:1-12



Read and discover what God communicated to the people at the time of the writing.

Read the text 2-3 times and identify either:

1. Describe the context of the parable: To whom is the parable being told and what situation caused it to be told?
2. Describe the everyday illustration being used as the parable.
3. Identify the 'single' Kingdom of God principle being taught. He who is forgiven much, loves much.
4. Identify the Turn, or change in behavior, being sought. A hint will be found in the closing line of the parable.
5. What change in your behavior is the parable challenging? How can you better express your appreciation to God for His forgiveness in your life?



Reflect, pray and determine what is God communicating to us in the present.

Write, in your own words, a 2-3 sentence prayer or revelation summarizing how the parables have challenged you to obey God.



Respond and do something!

Do something by praying and deciding what God wants to do in and through you in the future. Identify the steps of faith you need to take in order to facilitate God's promises. What am I going to do to apply my faith to be more of who God wants me to be? Is there sin to repent of? Is there something you can praise God for? Is there someone you need to forgive, serve or speak to? How are you worshipping God in your life?

Further applications – Send a challenge to people in your acquaintance. Be bold in what the Lord is showing you as a step of faith. Use social media to spread the Word of God (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Blog, email, etc.).

Devotional necessities: A Bible, pen or pencil, notebook or journal, a quiet place, a regular time, a prayerful heart of faith

BOOK FIVE: TWISTS AND TURNS

TWISTS AND TURNS: PARABLES

{Short stories designed to twist your thinking and turn your actions}

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