

Sunday School Lesson Discussion Questions

Discussion Questions on the Sunday School Lesson Parables in the Bible, for Sunday, November 28.

- What is a parable?
- Of what value in teaching is a parable?
- What is the kingdom of God?
- How does one become a member of God?
- How does one become a member of the kingdom of God?
- What becomes of one who refuses to enter the kingdom of God?

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Creamed Comments On S. S. Lesson

Creamed Comments on the Sunday School Lesson, Parables in the Bible, Matthew 13:31-46; Luke 16:3-10; or Sunday, November 28.

The kingdom of God is so indefinite that different concepts are given of it by parables. Paul defined it as "righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost." Romans 14:17.

Vs. 31,32. "Another parable put he forth to them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in the field; which indeed is the least of all seeds; but when it is grown, it is the greatest among all the herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof." The teachings of the kingdom of God here are in the capacity to grow. God endows the things of the kingdom with vitality. A tiny word spoken in the name of Christ, a Christian deed, a humble Christian witness, all have transforming power.

V. 33. "Another parable spake he unto them: The kingdom of heaven is like unto a leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." This parable teaches us how the kingdom of God grows. Much of the growth of the kingdom is invisible. Here is also taught the fact of the whole of life changed by the working of the leaven. Either one is a Christian or he is not. There is no such thing as a half Christian. It is impossible to give an accurate Christian report of a man, of a church, of a society or of a nation since much of the work of God in the hearts of men is not seen; but in time the truth will out.

V. 44. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found he hideth, and for joy thereof calleth his friends and his neighbors together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost." The coin was lost through the carelessness of some one else. Some sinners perish because of their own foolishness and others perish because of the wickedness of those who should be their teachers and guides. We are coins with the image of the divine stamped upon us.

V. 10. "Likewise I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." So great is the event of a converted soul that there is rejoicing in heaven. Christ assumes not only the existence of angels, but knowledge on their part concerning what is going on in the earth.

The Philaletheian Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. Silent auction.

The Bethany Circle will meet at the church on Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m.

Senior choir rehearsal on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Heidelberg Class family pot-luck supper on Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

Regular meeting and program will follow the supper. Christmas film and gift exchange for the children.

Catechetical classes on Saturday morning: seniors at 9, juniors at 10 a.m.

Church of the Nazarene
North Seventh & Marshall Sts.

Ralph A. Carter, pastor

The Church At Study

The Sunday School will begin at 9:30 with the assembly of the classes.

The general assembly period will be under the direction of Mr. Lowell Smith.

The Church At Worship

The service of worship begins at 10:20. This is the first Sunday of the Church Year, the first Sunday of Advent. Proper music and congregational singing will usher in this event. The pastor will address himself to the theme for the day suggested by the Scripture Luke 21:25-33, "Signs in The Sun." During the service Mrs. Walter Krick will sing the solo "The Voice In the Wilderness." A new hymn will be introduced to the congregation "O Come, Immanuel" from an ancient plain song of the 18th century.

Sunday Vespers

The first of a series of Sunday Vespers will be conducted at 4:00.

This series will run through the Advent season. The first program, a popular request, will bring back the film "Beyond Our Own." An additional film "We've a Story To Tell" will also be shown. Fellowship and food under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Essex will be enjoyed after the Vesper Hour.

Youth Fellowship

The Youth Fellowship will meet at 6:00. Madford Smith has the lesson for the evening.

Wednesday

7:00 The service of prayer.

7:00 Youth Choir rehearsal.

7:30 Official Board Meeting.

7:45 Adult Choir rehearsal.

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he had, and bought it." This parable teaches the need of having such an interest in Christ as to be willing to leave to follow him. Christ is the Pearl, the most precious jewel in that day. Whatever stands in opposition to Christ, or in competition with him, for our love and service, we must cheerfully quit, though ever so dear to us.

Vs. 3-6. "And he spake this parable unto them, saying, What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost."

This is the second parable presented by Jesus. It is the second Sunday of the New Church-year. The word Advent means coming.

During this four-week season before Christmas the Christian Church stresses the coming of Christ in the flesh as the Babe of Bethlehem; the coming of Christ into the hearts of men thru the preaching of the Word; and the second coming of Christ to judge the world.

The early Service, the Matins, is conducted at 8 o'clock. The festival sermon is based on the Gospel appointed for Advent Sunday. Matthew 21: 1-9, with the theme: "Our Homage To Our King."

The main festival service with the celebration of the Holy Sacrament is conducted at 10:30 o'clock. The Mixed Choir, under the direction of Mr. Dave Embler, will sing the Advent anthem, "Rejoice Greatly," by H. H. Woodward. The new quadruple Silver Individual Communion Service, a gift to the congregation by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gattshall, will be consecrated and used for the first time at the Advent Communion. The parish "visitors," the group of men who will conduct the Stewardship Visitation Sunday afternoon, will be commissioned in this service.

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