

Tuesday 2nd June 2020

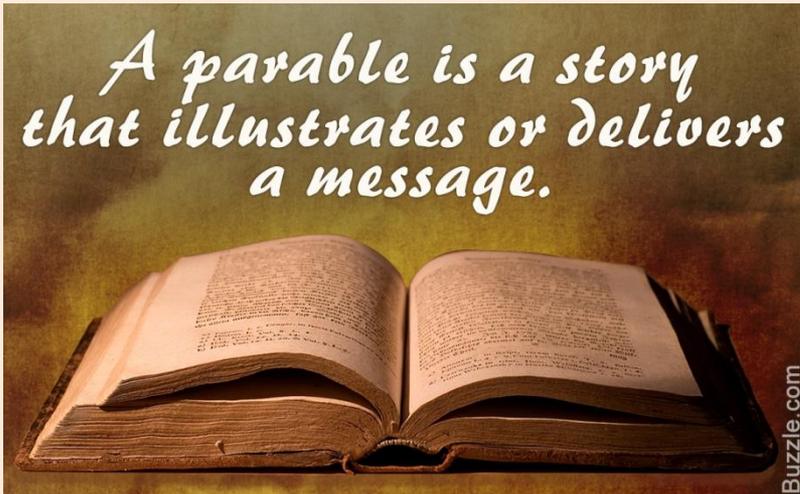
LI: We are learning to understand what a parable is.



We are going to be studying a particular type of narrative called a 'parable'

What parables do you know of already?

A parable is a story that illustrates or delivers a message.

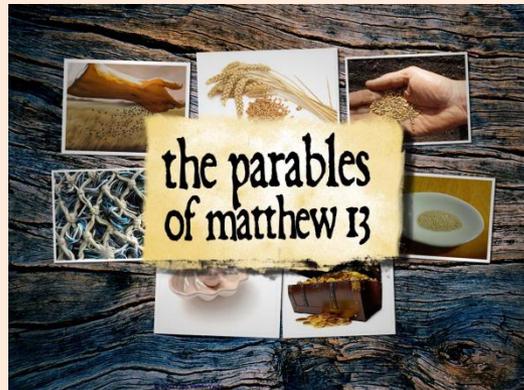


Here is the structure of a parable:

- A parable is a type of narrative based on a metaphor: two things are compared – the kingdom of God and something else (an activity)
- Parables are intended to make you think – parables propose ‘something is like something else’...but they leave you to figure out how the two things are alike and unlike.
- A parable is made up but it uses people and actions and events that could have happened to someone

Matthew has grouped a number of parables into one chapter (Chapter 13) rather like he grouped all the sayings of Jesus into the Sermon on the Mount.

If you have a bible (or access to the internet) use it and find Matthew 13 and identify all of the parables about the Kingdom of God.



You will find that Matthew uses the term kingdom of heaven— why do you think Matthew does not use the term ‘God’?

Why do you think Matthew does not use the term ‘God’?

Matthew was a Jew and according to Jewish tradition the word “God” was not referred to as it was so Holy – instead God was called Adonai – so that is why Matthew uses the term “heaven” instead.



Today we are going to look closely at Matthew 13: 31-32,
the **Parable of the Mustard Seed**:

Mt 13: 31- 33

‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.’



Let's analyse the story.

Task 1:

What is the name of this story? _____

What is the reference? _____

What is the kingdom being compared to? _____

Draw the parts of the parable: (break the story into three parts: someone planting the seed; it growing; the birds coming to nest in it.)



Let's analyse the story.

Task 2:

Analyse the story by making a Y chart of what is required in the activity the parable describes

What does it feel like to sow the seed?

What are the
actions required by
sowing the seed?

What is the result of
the seeds being
sown?