

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AOrd17x2017

Text: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

31 He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a **mustard seed** that someone took and sowed in his field; 32 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.” 33 He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

34 Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. 35 This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: “I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world.” 36 Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”

37 He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38 the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40 Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42 and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

44 “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in **a field**, which someone found and hid; then in his joy **he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field**.

45 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of **fine pearls**; 46 on finding one pearl of great value, **he went and sold all that he had and bought it**.

47 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into **the sea** and caught **fish of every kind**; 48 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the furnace of fire, **where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth**.

51 “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” 52 And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Math - I, Music - S, Nature - I/S, Self - S

Smarts	Images in the text/	Illustrations	SFX
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	interesting exegesis		
Word - Verbal/Linguistic			
Eye - Visual/Spatial		Vs 44-45 - selling everything to have that one thing; the perception of what you used to have has changed. It's a bit like going back to your old school or church or other building you knew as a child and seeing how small it is now that you are an adult.	
Math - Logical/Mathematical MWD		<p>Vs. 33 - Doing the math of the dough, this from the Bread Monk:</p> <p>“The amount of flour is the most surprising element of the parable, which is not entirely evident in most English translations. “Three measures” is the usual translation for the original Greek “tria sata” which is a little over a bushel of flour (1.125 bushels, to be precise). That’s a ridiculously large amount of flour---you’d need a 100-quart Hobart mixer with a dough hook as big as your leg to knead it! Translating into kitchen measures, 1.125 bushels is 144 cups of flour. Presuming we used a common recipe for basic white bread that uses 5 ½ cups of flour, 144 cups is enough to make 26 batches of bread of two loaves each, giving us a total of 52 loaves, each weighing about a pound and a half. If we’re frugal but not stingy, we can get 16 slices out of a loaf,</p>	

		<p>yielding 832 slices, enough for 416 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches (we'd need 33 jars of jelly, and 64 of peanut butter).</p> <p>“What’s the message of the story? It’s simple: The kingdom of heaven is like a woman who wants to do more than feed her family. The kingdom announced by Jesus is like a woman who wants to feed the village. The kingdom of God is like a woman who wants to feed the world. The kingdom is for everybody.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Vss. 44-45 - Calculate how great a pearl or treasure would have to be to make it worth selling all you have to buy it.</p>	
Body - Kinesthetic			Vss. 31-33 - Who hasn't passed around mustard seeds and/or yeast for people to see and touch ? Get on it!
Musical D2			Invite your folks to choose one of the several parables here and rewrite it as a limerick. Share as appropriate.
Natural D2		The mustard seed's growth is like kudzu or mesquite; an invasive plant that will take over if given the chance.	V. 33 - Add a packet of yeast and a tsp. of sugar to a bowl of warm water, as if you were going to make bread. Then go ahead and add it to three cups of flour, knead it a bit, because you <i>are</i> making bread. Then cover it with a towel and let it rise while

			<p>you preach. Show it before and after. Finish making the bread, per a recipe like this bread or this focaccia or this flatbread, and serve it for communion next time.</p>
<p>People - Interpersonal</p>		<p>Vs. 33 - “leaven” that which is impure like the down and out, or prostitutes, or tax collectors, or anyone else Jesus hung out with; these people are part of the kingdom and give rise to the loaf of bread</p> <p>Vs 47 - the net works underneath the surface and catches everything</p> <p>Vs 45 - the merchant is someone who trades in good things but can still be blown away by something priceless</p>	<p>Who is leaven; who makes you rise? Does it make a difference that Jesus specifically spent time with them?</p> <p>What net catches everything including you?</p> <p>When was the time you were stunned by God’s creation?</p>
<p>Self - Intrapersonal</p> <p>MWD</p>			<p>The parables in this passage fall into three themes in describing the kingdom of heaven: abundant growth (31-33), surpassing worth (44-45), and discernable holiness (47-50).</p> <p>Take some time to reflect on how these themes are at work in your experience and expression of the Christian faith. Where would you want God to work on improving either your experience or your expression?</p>