

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: AOrd27x2017

Text: Matthew 21:33-46

33 “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. 34 When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. 35 But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. 37 Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ 39 So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. 40 Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” 41 They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes’?

43 Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. 44 The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. 46 They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Eye - B, Body - I, Nature - B, Self - I

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	Vs 33 "Oikodespotehs" literally despot of the house Despot = a ruler or other person who holds absolute power,	Master of the House (Thenardier) from <i>Les Miserables</i> Fagan from <i>Oliver Twist</i> Lucius Malfoy from the <i>Harry Potter</i> series	

	<p>typically one who exercises it in a cruel or oppressive way.</p> <p>Vs 33 - the actions of the landowner in his vineyard is an echo of Isaiah 5:2 but that's as far as it goes</p>	<p>← The allusion shifts from the vineyard owner who does everything possible to have good grapes in Isaiah to the workers who resent the owner in the parable.</p>	
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p> <p>D2</p>		<p>Some info on ancient vineyards and wine presses, such as how and why one would dig around the vineyard (to keep out critters and vandals) and that the press was cut into the limestone bedrock.</p>	<p>Invite people to imagine your sanctuary as the vineyard! See here is the wall around it (walls of the room), the watchtower (choir loft? pulpit?), the winepress (pulpit or communion table). And of course, the rows of vines themselves (pews full of people!).</p>
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p>		<p>[Logic] Vss. 34-37 – It seems the landowner keeps making the same mistake over and over. This is not unusual, as this article and video point out. We build neural pathways when we make mistakes, and also when we try to figure out what we did wrong. Counterintuitively, the article suggests <i>not</i> trying to figure out what went wrong, because that is just rehearsing the mistake, digging the pathway deeper. Just go and put those wretches to a miserable death this time! See also SELF</p> <p>If the landowner is making the same mistake, then consider the mistake the tenants are making -</p>	

		<p>they think they will get away with killing the son to inherit the vineyard. David Lose equates them with the guys who run Ponzi schemes; eventually it all falls apart.</p>	
<p>Body - Kinesthetic MWD</p>		<p>The violence in this parable is not unfamiliar either to the listeners in Jesus' day or our own.</p> <p>Turf wars Growing impatience with slow responses to aid Food and water riots Coups Road rage</p> <p>This article talks about how stressed-out people revert to the coping skills of the Toddler Brain - characterized as highly reactive, volatile, self-obsessed, with bad judgment. [Not, perhaps, the problem of the tenants - they were just wicked - but more common as an everyday phenom in our time]</p>	
<p>Musical</p>			
<p>Natural D2</p>		<p>Fruit from a tree (or any plant) eventually becomes another tree - the whole circle of life thing - but in the meanwhile, it also benefits birds, animals, insects, and other plants by budding, putting out leaves, flowering, and bearing fruit. Some of that fruit is eaten and some of it lands on the ground and some of it replants and becomes</p>	<p>Vs. 44 - Bring in a large but manageable building stone – sandstone or limestone or granite – and have it in a prominent place. To demonstrate the verse, drop an earthenware jar or mug on the stone so that it shatters. Pick up the stone and drop it on another earthenware piece, or perhaps on an egg!</p>

		<p>next year's parent organism.</p> <p>A fruit bearing plant "serves" many creatures other than itself by making fruit. It does not act in isolation.</p>	<p>[If Christ is that stone, what does it say about our salvation? What is it that is being shattered? Might it be ego, rather than soul?]</p> <p>NATURE BONUS: Appear to bring some fruit out from under the stone that squashed the egg -- fruits of the kingdom!</p>
<p>People - Interpersonal</p>	<p>Absentee landlord slaves Son of landlord tenants</p>	<p>Landlord = Rome slaves = Pharisees Son of landlord = Roman official, perhaps? tenants = peasant farmers</p> <p>Rome occupies the land and sends servants to extract taxes for its use/upkeep. The Pharisees 'serve' Rome by appeasement. To harm or kill an official of Rome would result in horrible vengeance.</p> <p>(See - Sarah Dylan Breuer, Sarah Laughed.net)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The priests and Pharisees figured out that Jesus was talking about them. Satire is not always so easy to spot. Vis a vis, according to this report, many conservative viewers believed that Stephen Colbert, in hosting <i>The Colbert Report</i>, used humor but was honestly conservative, while liberals tended to believe Colbert was using satire as an actual liberal. <p>Dan Barkeley of The Daily Curreant talks about this phenomenon and why he</p>	<p>Who are we in this drama? The ones who consume without a thought to the living conditions of those who work the land? The ones who feel we are owed and will escalate conflict in ways that will echo through generations to come?</p>

		<p>is no longer writing satire in today's climate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #SatireNotSatire: humans too stupid to recognize satire. • Is it ironic that they won't arrest Jesus for the same reason they wouldn't answer him about John's authority in last week's text? 	
<p>Self - Intrapersonal MWD</p>	<p>"It may be good to remind our listeners that sin is not primarily doing bad things, but an attitude of selfishness that has no need for God. In fact, God becomes a nuisance who gets in the way of selfish desires, e.g., demanding that we give to God some of our produce (that we may have worked so hard to get) -- so we kill God and God's messengers." Brian Stoffregen, CrossMarks</p>	<p>If "kingdom" is used as God's rule over us rather than a place, then taking away the kingdom means that God is no longer going to rule over us -- we are left on our own. It's like a parent telling the selfish, stubborn child, "You don't want my help. Good, you're on your own." (See also Romans 1? on God's wrath)</p>	