

Unit 25, Session 1

# Kingdom Parables

Matthew 13

Story Point: God's growing kingdom is more valuable than anything.

Jesus told the people parables to teach them about the kingdom of God.

Jesus told a parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a man planted in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it grows taller than the garden plants. It becomes a tree, and the birds come and build nests in its branches."

Jesus continued, "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, or yeast, that a woman mixed into fifty pounds of flour. The leaven makes the dough rise."

Jesus told another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure, buried in a field, that a man found. He reburied it, and then he joyfully sold everything he had and bought that field." Then Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one priceless pearl, he went and sold everything he had and bought it."

When Jesus finished teaching the crowds, He left that place and went to Nazareth.

Christ Connection: The kingdom of God is growing in the world. This kingdom is valuable and worth giving everything for. While we wait for Jesus to return and fully set up His kingdom, we carry out the mission of telling others about King Jesus, who rescues sinners.

## **EXPERIENCE** the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

<ul> <li>What did Jesus say the kingdom of God is like? Unscramble each description</li> </ul>
1. RASMTUD EDES
2. VALENE
3. SURETREA
4. a merchant looking for fine REALPS
• What does this story teach us about God?

• What four stories did Jesus tell to teach about God's kingdom?

### **CHRIST CONNECTION**

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• Why did Jesus teach in parables?

• What role can you play in growing God's kingdom?

• What is most valuable to you? How do your actions show its value?

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• Find Colossians 1:13-14 in your Bible and write the words below.

• Write a prayer to God, asking Him to give you understanding of His Word and a desire to seek His kingdom above all else.

#### **READ THE WORD**

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

☐ Philippians 3:8

☐ Psalm 78:2

☐ Philippians 1:6

☐ Revelation 11:15

☐ Acts 1:6-8

☐ Hebrews 12:28