

Practical Principles from the Parables

"Translating Truth About Trust and Transformation"

Matthew 13:10-17

Sermon Series Summary

Have you ever found the parables confusing or difficult to understand? If so, then you are not alone. Many people have trouble understanding these teachings but Jesus gives the answer to decode these parables and discover practical principles to live out your faith in modern times. Join us as we begin a new series that will give you new insight into practical principles of faithfulness as we study the parables found in Matthew 13.

Series Theme Passage

Matthew 13:16 (ESV) - But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

Main Text

Matthew 13:10-17 (ESV) – ¹⁰ Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" ¹¹ And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹² For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is

fulfilled that says: "'"You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive." ¹⁵ For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.' ¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

Big Idea - Trusting the Lord Reveals Truth that Transforms

Three Truths to Translate into Reality

Truth #1 - Transforming Truth Reveals or Conceals as a Product of Your Trust in Him

Matthew 13:10-12 (ESV) – ¹⁰ Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" ¹¹ And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹² For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

■ **Key Point** – The first truth discusses the rationale behind the presentation of the truth of God's Word through the parables as presented by Jesus. It is a fact that parables both reveal and conceal the truth of God's Word. The difference as to which result applies to your personal life depends on whether or not you have a relationship with Jesus as Lord and Savior of your life.

Truth #2 - Transforming Truth Translates God's Transforming Mission for You

Matthew 13:13-15 (ESV) – ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: "'"You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive." ¹⁵ For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'

■ **Key Point** – The second truth discusses the reality of the mission that every Christian has been given as found in sharing the Good News with the world around us. Some individuals have hardened their hearts against the Lord and His message while others have open eyes, ears, and hearts. Christians are called to share the Good News so that others can turn to the Lord, see and hear the truth, and experience the healing touch of the Lord through salvation.

Truth #3 - Transforming Truth Brings Blessing and Abundance as You Serve the Lord

Matthew 13:16-17 (ESV) – ¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

■ **Key Point** – The final truth discusses the reality of the Lord's blessing upon those who choose to pursue a relationship with Him. As you pursue a relationship with Him then you also choose to surrender your life to Him as both Lord and Savior, devoted to serving Him as Master of your life.

Memory Verse

Matthew 13:16 (ESV) - But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

Challenge:

Remind yourself that your responsibility, before the Lord, is to apply the truths you have discovered in the Word of God. As you reflect on this message, answer this question,

• How is "God's Truth" opening your eyes to see His mission more clearly today?