



Kingdom Wisdom

Do You Have Kingdom Wisdom?

Matthew 13:47-52

How to Prepare

Begin preparing by reading the full passage a few times. Then answer the questions for yourself. Then think about how your Small Group might answer them. Try re-wording the questions to fit you and your Small Group. Don't feel tied down to the discussion guide, just be sure to discuss the main point of the text in your conversations.

Resources-

<https://www.gotquestions.org/fully-understand.html>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/you-never-outgrow-the-gospel>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/you-still-need-the-gospel>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/brothers-let-us-query-the-text>

Sermon Outline:

Matthew 13:47-52

1. Kingdom Wisdom Imparted. Vv. 3-50
2. Kingdom Wisdom Understood. V. 51
3. Kingdom Wisdom Unlocked. V. 52

Matthew 13:47-52

A Dragnet

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind;

48 and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away.

49 So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous,

50 and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 "Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes."

52 And Jesus said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things new and old."

Discussion Questions

Ask a volunteer to read Matthew 13:47-52.

INTRODUCTION

Here is a question or two to help introduce the topic and jump-start discussion.

1. What was one key takeaway from the sermon or the text that challenged or encouraged your understanding of the Kingdom of God?

UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION

These questions should help your Small Group dig deeper into the text and then apply it to your lives today.

I. Kingdom Wisdom Imparted. Vv. 3-50

2. What interaction of Jesus from chapters 11-12 or parable from chapter 13 impacted you the most in this sermon series?

3. What are some of the key truths taught through the parables? In what ways do the parables center around the gospel of Jesus Christ?

(The Parable of the Sower and the Ground Vv.3-23 teaches that many will hear the gospel of the Kingdom, but only those with sincere faith will understand and believe the gospel of the Kingdom. The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares Vv.24-30, 36-43 teaches that those who truly believe will live in the world with those who do not truly believe until the day of judgement. The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Leaven Vv. 31-35 teach that during this time of waiting, the Kingdom will grow to encompass the world through the proclamation of the gospel. The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl of Great Price Vv. 44-46 teach that all those who believe the gospel of Jesus Christ have found the most valuable thing in existence, and will be willing to give everything to follow Jesus. And the Parable of the Dragnet Vv. 47-50 teaches that those who have rejected the gospel will be sorted out at judgment day and will receive just punishment.)

4. What teaching does the parable of the net reinforce? What does Jesus seem to be emphasizing, and how does this highlight the importance of accepting Kingdom Wisdom?

II. Kingdom Wisdom Understood. V. 51

5. What does it mean to truly "understand" Kingdom Wisdom as it's being imparted through these parables? Is it merely intellectual comprehension?

(In this context, understanding meant believing the gospel. The disciples understood that these things were all about Jesus and His followers. So in one sense they understood completely, and in another sense they still lacked much intellectual comprehension of all that Jesus was communicating.)

6. What is the bare minimum one has to believe to rightly say they "understand" Kingdom Wisdom? Why is it necessary to admit the need to grow in "understanding" no matter how much Bible knowledge or experience you have?

(Understanding the Wisdom of the Kingdom requires believing in the gospel... that Jesus is the King, the Son of God, the center of all things, and Savior of those who trust in Him. All true biblical understanding flows from faith in the gospel, because all of scripture ultimately points to Jesus.)

7. How do we grow in our understanding of truth, and what role does the gospel play in that process?

III. Kingdom Wisdom Unlocked. V. 52

8. What is a "scribe," and what does it mean to be "trained for the Kingdom of Heaven"(ESV)?

(A scribe was a student of God's Word. Jesus is either referring to someone who has been trained to be a student of God's Word through gospel teachings, or someone who was a student of the Word who became acquainted with gospel teachings, like Paul. Either way, this person is a student of the Word who understands and believes that the gospel is the whole point of the Word.)

9. What are the "new and old" treasures that Jesus is referring to? How does faith in the gospel unlock our ability to understand the truths taught in scripture?

(The new treasures are the New Covenant teachings and gospel realities of who Jesus is and what He has done for us through His life, death, and resurrection. The old treasures are the ways He has fulfilled all of the Old Covenant prophecies and how they point to Him. Believing that the gospel truly is the fulfillment of scripture simply sheds light on the point of scripture and enables us to understand what all the stories, laws, and prophecies are really about, as well as how to apply them properly to our lives today.)

10. What are some challenges we face in consistently prioritizing Jesus above other things? How can we overcome these challenges and cultivate a continuous awareness of the surpassing value of Jesus in our daily lives, so that He remains our top priority?

Matt. 13:47–50 The net, shaped like a long wall, was dragged toward shore by both ends, trapping fish of every kind. sorted. Fish without scales and fins, e.g., were considered bad and unclean (cf. Lev. 11:9–12). Evil will not be totally removed from the world until the end of the age.

Matt. 13:51–52 Have you understood . . . Yes. True disciples grow in understanding through Jesus' teaching (cf. 28:20). They are like the man who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old, in that they understand both the "new" revelation from Jesus and how it fulfills the "old" promises in the OT.