

Why Parables?

Parables: Part 1

Nathaniel Sorensen * June 23, 2024 * New Life Vineyard Church

Why did Jesus _____ in parables?

He answered them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to those outside, everything comes in parables so that

*they may look and look, yet not perceive;
they may listen and listen, yet not understand;
otherwise, they might turn back – and be forgiven."*

Mark 4:11-12

Jesus' parables reveal your _____.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

Then He called a child to Him and had him stand among them. "I assure you," He said, unless you are converted and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child – this one is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:1-4

God _____ the mind
to _____ the heart.

"Humility is the only soil in which virtue takes root; a lack of humility is the explanation of every defect and failure. Humility is not so much a virtue along with the others, but is the root of all, because it alone takes the right attitude before God, and allows Him, as God, to do all."

- Andrew Murray

Jesus' parables reveal how the _____ works.

All of you, take up My yoke and learn from Me, because I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves.

Matthew 11:29

Talk It Over With Someone

1. How do you usually react to new things?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how curious are you to chase down answers when God says something or leads in a way that you don't initially understand? Describe why you gave yourself that number.
3. Share a time (or times) when you've done or said something because the Holy Spirit helped you imagine how things – big or small – *should be* more like His kingdom (a relationship restored, an injustice righted, a sickness or injury healed, etc).

This week, set your mind and heart to partner with the Holy Spirit in imagining your world more in line with His kingdom, then taking a step in that direction.

* All scriptures from HCSB unless otherwise noted