

DAILY PRAYER & STUDY GUIDE  
MAY 6-JUNE 9

*Stories*  
for **LIFE**  
finding wisdom in **Jesus' Parables**



## Stories for Life


### Parable

An expanded  
analogy designed to  
stimulate thinking  
AND action for God

You may recognize this definition of a parable from some of the presentations that accompany our sermons in this series. Yes, these “stories for life” are designed to make us think and to spur us to action for God. As you work through this study and prayer guide, open your mind and heart to the Lord for whatever He might be speaking to you about. Like the first guide, this one is designed to help you study and meditate on the parables and other biblical passages that convey similar themes, and it will also assist you in praying in response to God’s truth.

During this series, we encourage you to pray for the entire Harvest church family, and each day some will be listed. Our missionaries are included in this alphabetical list and are marked by an asterisk (\*). As you pray for Harvesters, we encourage you to shape your prayers around the biblical text we are focusing on that day. This may require you to expend a little extra effort, but it will be worth it!

# THE PARABLE OF THE WORKERS in the VINEYARD

An illustration of a person wearing a straw hat and blue overalls, standing in a vineyard. The person is reaching up to pick grapes from a vine. A woven basket filled with purple grapes sits on the ground next to them. The background shows green leaves and more grapevines.

This parable shows that kingdom rewards depend not on our efforts but only on the sovereign grace of God, so thank Him and always be aware of his grace.

## MATTHEW 20:1-16

<sup>1</sup>“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard...

1. Ask God to open your eyes to the truth of this parable. Then read it *several* times and meditate on it. Let it run through your mind and heart. Write a few *observations* about this parable.

2. What questions do you have about the parable?

3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:

- Bob Kluesener
- Ryan & Maggie Kruse (Reagan & Hannah)

Tuesday, 5/7

Romans 3:9-24

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible "SPECS" by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Vicki Lehman
  - Tom & Leah Machi (Aida)

Wednesday, 5/8

Matthew 20:1-16

1. Ask God for his help and read the parable again. What do we know (if anything) about the *context* for this parable?
2. What truths do you learn about GOD from this parable?
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Brian & Becky Madeira (Gray & Mae)
  - Rachel & Greg Manning (Allie, TJ, & Amelia)

Thursday, 5/9

1 Corinthians 4:1-7

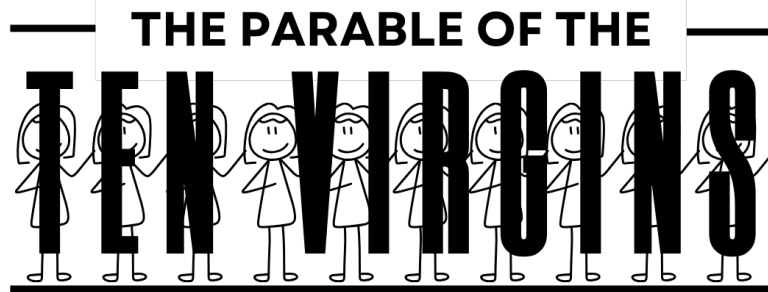
1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible "SPECS" by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Dan & Jennifer Martin
  - Jeanette McKenzie

Friday, 5/10

Matthew 20:1-16

1. Prayerfully read the parable one more time. What is the main point (or points) that Jesus is making by telling this story?
2. Name at least one way you can apply the teaching of this parable to your life.
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Jeannie Meehan
  - Mohan & Prasanthi Meesala (Moses & Saakshi)

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Corey & Kayla Mode (Brooklyn)
  - Gene Mode



**This parable reminds us to be prepared for the return of the Son of Man, even when there is a long delay.**

### MATTHEW 25:1-13

<sup>1</sup>“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. <sup>4</sup>The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. <sup>6</sup>“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ <sup>7</sup>“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>“‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’ <sup>12</sup>“But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’ <sup>13</sup>“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

1. Ask God to open your eyes to the truth of this parable. Then read it *several* times and meditate on it. Let it run through your mind and heart. Write a few *observations* about this parable.

2. What questions do you have about the parable?

3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:

- Gary & Paula Moore
- Naomi Muhoka (Michelle, Scott, & Micah)

Tuesday, 5/14

Matthew 24:1-51

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Tom & Sheri Muma—Chad\*
  - Delon & Brenda Murphy (Sarah)

Wednesday, 5/15

Matthew 25:1-13

1. Ask God for his help and read the parable again. What do we know (if anything) about the *context* for this parable?
2. What truths do you learn about GOD from this parable?
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Hawaz & Janet Naizghi (Noah, Hallelujah, Moriah, & Glory)
  - Anton & Lynette Niemand

Thursday, 5/16

Luke 12:35-40

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Nancy Niner
  - Herbart & Jessica Nyanzi (Grayson & Charlotte)

Friday, 5/17

Matthew 25:1-13

1. Prayerfully read the parable one more time. What is the main point (or points) that Jesus is making by telling this story?
2. Name at least one way you can apply the teaching of this parable to your life.
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - John & Bonnie Nystrom—Papua New Guinea
  - Chris & Meseret Opiela and Dibora (Nazrawit, Amariah, & Eliora)



1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Be still before the Lord.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Gina & Gilbert Pagunuran (Griffin)
  - Francois & Ameante Payen (Esther, Francesca, & Emilie)

THE PARABLE OF THE  
**BAGS** of **GOLD**



This parable urges us to improve on the “talents” God gives you to manage while you wait for his return.

**MATTHEW 25:14-30**

<sup>14</sup> “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey...

1. Ask God to open your eyes to the truth of these parables. Then read them *several* times and meditate on them. Let them run through your mind and heart. Write a few *observations* about these parables.

2. What questions do you have about these parables?

3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:

- Terry & Brenda Peagler
- Ken & Cathy Phillips

Tuesday, 5/21

Psalm 24:1-10

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible "SPECS" by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Bonita Pickett
  - Bruce & Karen Porter

Wednesday, 5/22

Matthew 25:14-30

1. Ask God for his help and read the parables again. What do we know (if anything) about the *context* for these parables?
2. What truths do you learn about GOD from these parables?
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Mike & Coni Portner
  - Steve & Niki Powers (Evan)

Thursday, 5/23

1 Chronicles 29:1-20

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Rich & Lynn Randle
  - Stan & Heidi Reckard


Friday, 5/24

Matthew 25:14-30

1. Prayerfully read the parables one more time. What is the main point (or points) that Jesus is making by telling these stories?
2. Name at least one way you can apply the teaching of these parables to your life.
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Mary Lou Rhodes
  - Ann Rodger

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Jessica Rodriguez (Daisy)
  - Teresa Russell

— THE PARABLE OF THE —  
**GOOD SAMARITAN**



**This familiar parable teaches us to love everyone in need, as that is whom is meant by our “neighbor.”**

**LUKE 10:25-37**

<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” <sup>27</sup> He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” <sup>28</sup> “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” <sup>29</sup> But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup> In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’” <sup>36</sup> “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” <sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

1. Ask God to open your eyes to the truth of these parables. Then read them *several* times and meditate on them. Let them run through your mind and heart. Write a few *observations* about these parables.

2. What questions do you have about these parables?

3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:

- Barb Seidel
- Judy Sellers

Tuesday, 5/28

Matthew 22:34-40

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible "SPECS" by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Martin & Jane Shao (Enoch & Adrian)
  - Jon & Kathleen Shoenfeld

Wednesday, 5/29

Luke 10:25-37

1. Ask God for his help and read the parables again. What do we know (if anything) about the *context* for these parables?
2. What truths do you learn about GOD from these parables?
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Stan Smith
  - Ben Snodgrass

Thursday, 5/30

James 2:1-13

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Eric Snyder
  - TJ & Liz Stefanini (Isaiah & Eliana)

Friday, 5/31

Luke 10:25-37

1. Prayerfully read the parables one more time. What is the main point (or points) that Jesus is making by telling these stories?
2. Name at least one way you can apply the teachings of these parables to your life.
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Peggy Tanner
  - Daniel & Lawrence Tawiah (Evet & Elliot)



1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
  
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
  
3. Be still before the Lord.
  
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
  
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Steve & Kim Thompson (Sarah, Annabeth, & Charlotte)
  - Ben & Michelle Truitt (Lilly, Heath, Elijah, Violet, Parry, & Renee)

# THE PARABLE OF THE FRIEND at MIDNIGHT



**This parable speaks of the character and nature of God as the basis for persistent boldness in prayer.**

## LUKE 11:1-11

<sup>1</sup> One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” <sup>2</sup> He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>5</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup> a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.’ <sup>7</sup> And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need. <sup>4</sup> Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation. <sup>9</sup> “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead?

1. Ask God to open your eyes to the truth of this parable. Then read it *several* times and meditate on it. Let it run through your mind and heart. Write a few *observations* about this parable.

2. What questions do you have about the parable?

3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:

- Sasha & Natasha Tsutserov—Russia\*
- Sally Valentin

Tuesday, 6/4

Acts 4:23-31

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible "SPECS" by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Angel & Lucy Velez (Eliel & Elian)
  - Hannah Waleh

Wednesday, 6/5

Luke 11:1-11

1. Ask God for his help and read the parable again. What do we know (if anything) about the *context* for this parable?
2. What truths do you learn about GOD from this parable?
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Jane Wankmueller
  - Matthew Waters

Thursday, 6/6

Matthew 6:5-15

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible "SPECS" by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Basil Watkins
  - Rosie Welsh

Friday, 6/7

Luke 11:1-11

1. Prayerfully read the parable one more time. What is the main point (or points) that Jesus is making by telling this story?
2. Name at least one way you can apply the teaching of this parable to your life.
3. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Mavis Williams
  - Lee-Ann & Ian Wilson (Jade)

1. As you study the passage, write down observations and/or questions.
2. To apply the Bible, put on your Bible “SPECS” by looking for these things: (Some truth about God; Promise to claim; Example to follow; Command to obey; or Sin to confess and forsake):
3. Be still before the Lord.
4. Worship God based on what you learn about Him from this Scripture.
5. Based on the passage today, pray biblically for these Harvesters:
  - Steve & Erlyn Wilson (Tobi & Skyler)
  - Liyan Zhang (Rica & Yuka)