



Grab your magnifying glass and secret decoder because...

It's time to get into... The Word of God!

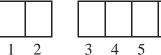
The parables of Jesus from the book of Matthew have always been some of my favorite passages. Jesus chose to teach the crowds with riddles and let people try to interpret His teaching, but He explained the lessons for his disciples.

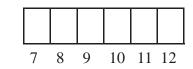
Let your imagination fly, and pretend you are a detective to discover what Jesus meant in each of these parables we will be studying in this unit.

The more you investigate, the more you will learn from each lesson.

Soon you will have figured out the super-secret message hidden in these pages and you will have the answer to the question...

Where is the kingdom of God?





Each week there is a secret code hidden somewhere on the page. With your secret decoder you can investigate and find each letter and solve the riddle. Add the letter from each week to each box and at the end of this unit, you will have the answer!





Footprint 1 The Sower



Matthew 13:3-23

3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9 Whoever has ears, let them hear."



What is one thing that can strangle your achievements in life?

What do you need to achieve a gain of 30, 60 or 100 times more than what you spent in time and money to God?

What's the first thing you need to become good soil?

Is it good to compete in the things of God?

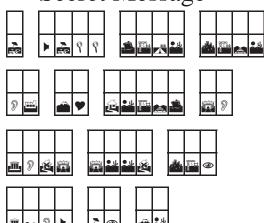
Who is responsible for your heart being good soil?

H K E E F В Н 0 D R R S H E A 0 P R R G R R O O O U B O S K U N E R T N R D D A Ι S S R N A G \mathbf{O} \mathbf{O} D O G T B R S S E 0 N E E D

Word Find

UNDERSTAND	GOOD	PATH
CHOKED	HEAR	SOW
FARMER	SOIL	CROP
THORNS	WORD	GREW
PLANTS	FRUIT	BIRDS
SEEDS	HEART	SUN

Secret Message





Memorize

"But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." Matthew 13:23

Homework: Read Matthew 1-3



The Weeds

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Matthew 13:24-30

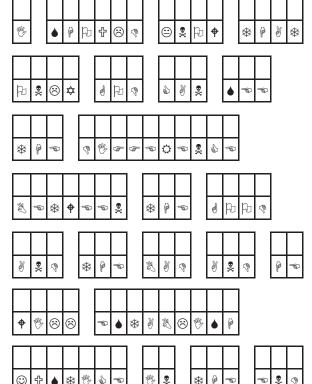
24 Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. 25 But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. 26 When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. 27 The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' 28 'An enemy did this,' he replied. The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' 29 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn."

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Word Find

harvest	grow	sow
sleeping	good	pull
heaven	weeds	barn
servants	wheat	seed
collect	Jesus	
uproot	enemy	

Secret Message



Give an example of someone you saw last week doing something wrong that was not caught.

Give an example of someone you saw last week doing something wrong and although he was caught, he/she was NOT punished.

When do they receive their punishment for what they have done?

What is the end of the world?

Is it our job to point out the sins of others?

Memorize

"The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." Matthew 13:41, 43a

Homework: Read Matthew 4-6
Finished reading Matthew 1-3

















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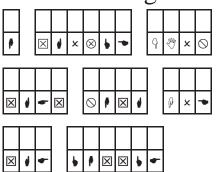


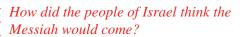
The Mustard Seed

Matthew 13:31-32

31 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.
32 Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

Secret Message





What does the mustard seed in this parable represent?

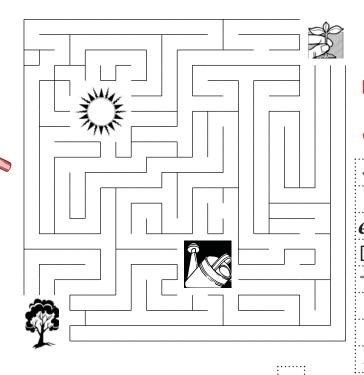
What is the kingdom of heaven?

How many Christians are there in your school and how many children are there in your school? In the end, how many will see that Jesus Christ is Lord?

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Maze

Find the way from starting as a seed to becoming a large tree. Make sure to give your seed water and sun!

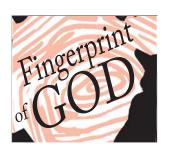


Memorize

"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed... Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree..." Matthew 13:31b, 32a

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God loves you



Homework: Read Matthew 7-9
Finished reading Matthew 4-6





Footprint 4 The Yeast

Matthew 13:33-35



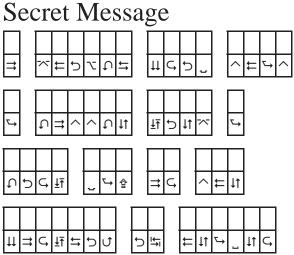
33 He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough." 34 Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. 35 So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

"I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world."

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Y	Е	A	S	T	M	K	O	U	P	T
A	D	R	Ο	P	A	Ι	A	S	Н	Y
Η	Е	A	V	Е	N	N	D	M	Е	Е
S	O	В	S	I	X	G	S	O	T	S
Ι	L	L	S	Ι	N	D	O	U	G	Н
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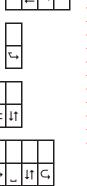
PARABLE	MIXED
KINGDOM	FLOUR
HEAVEN	DOUGH
YEAST	PROPHET
WOMAN	CREATION
HIDDEN	MOUTH
CROWD	SIN
JESUS	GOD

YOU ARE IMPORTANT



Memorize

"The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough." Matthew 13:33b



Who wants a life full of God?

How is this accomplished?

When were the things that Jesus Christ revealed through the parables hidden?





Homework: Read Matthew 10-12 Finished reading Matthew 7-9

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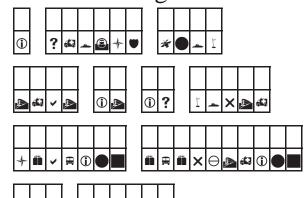
The Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

Matthew 13:44-46

44"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. 46 When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."

Secret Message

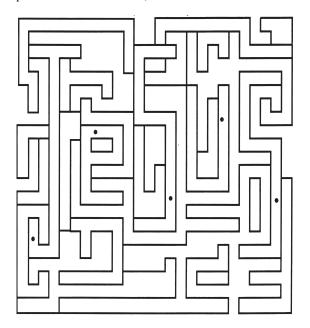


Look for the things of God

Hidden Word



Who is the treasure? (To find the answer, color the spaces that contain a dot.)



Memorize

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it." Matthew 13:45-46



Why is it ok to lose everything you have?

Why is it wise to leave everything and gain the kingdom of God?

What are the two things that the Bible shows us that are opposite?

Homework: Read Matthew 13-14
Finished reading Matthew 10-12



Footprint 6 The Lost Sheep Matthew 18:10-14

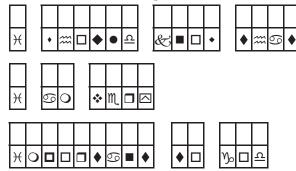
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10"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.

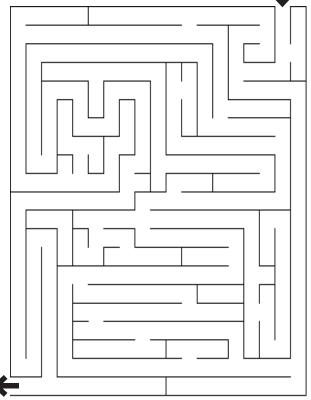
12"What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? 13 And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. 14 In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish."

Secret Message





Maze



What will God do if you leave Him?

Who does God give special importance to?

Name the people around you that are smaller than you. Which ones are important to God?

What practical things can you do to help your younger brother or sister?

What represents people in this parable?

Memorize

"In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:14

Homework: Read Matthew 15-16
Finished reading Matthew 13-14



What did the servant say when he knelt before the king?

H

(To understand the phrase, write down the letter in front of the one given below.)

QBUJFOU

XJUI

Footprint 7 The Unmerciful Servant

Matthew 18:21-35

23 "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back. But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

What is the important theme from this parable?

According to the parable, what will happen if we don't forgive?

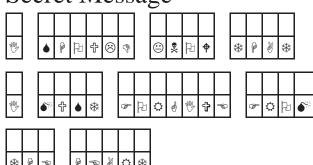
How many times should we forgive someone that offends us?

Make a list of all of the sins that you know From these sins, which does Jesus give emphasis to in all the parables?

Look thru the list of parables from the 13 lessons if you wish, and notice that the others do not focus on a sin as much as this one does.

Secret Message

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Memorize

"I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" Matthew 18:32b-33

Homework: Read Matthew 17-18 Finished reading Matthew 15-16







Unscramble the words to understand the message. fiLe si ton yaswal irfa.

Footprint 8 The Workers

Matthew 20:1-16

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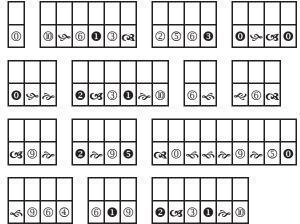
"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. 2 He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. 3 About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. 4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' 5 So they went.

"He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. 6 About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' 7 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' 8 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.' 9 The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. 10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. 11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 12 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' 13 "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for

a denarius? 14 Take your pay and go. I want to give

the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. 15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Secret Message



Will there be complete justice here on earth?

What does God want us to do in life?

Can we do nothing?

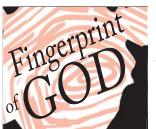
Are there different levels of salvation?

What does God want us to do when we see Him blessing others?

Will a person enter heaven that accepted the Lord only a week before they died?







Memorize

"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matthew 20:16

Homework: Read Matthew 19-20 Finished reading Matthew 17-18



Maze

Help the two sons to get to the farm.



Matthew 21:28-32

28"...There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.'

29"'I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

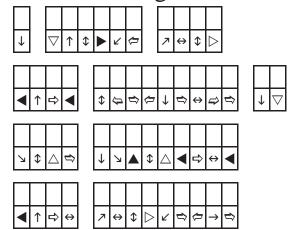
30"Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go.

31"Which of the two did what his father wanted?"

"The first," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. 32 For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him."

Secret Message





Who are those that don't want to go to the field, but repent and go?

Who are those that say "yes" to the Lord, but do not go into His field?

What does it mean to, "Go to the field"?

What can you do if you realize that you haven't obeyed and gone into the field?

Is it important to God for us to believe and obey?

Memorize

"For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him." Matthew 21:32



Homework: Read Matthew 21-22
Finished reading Matthew 19-20



The Tenants

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Matthew 21:33-45

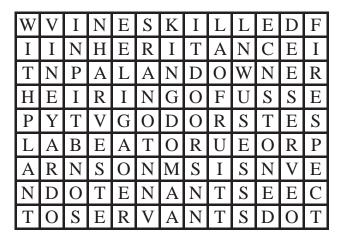
33"... There was a landowner who planted a vineyard.... He rented the vineyard to some farmers... 34 When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. 35 The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. 36 Then he sent other servants to them ...and the tenants treated them the same way. 37 Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' 39 So they took him ... and killed him. 40 Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" 41 "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants..."

43 "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit."

Memorize

"Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit." Matthew 21:43

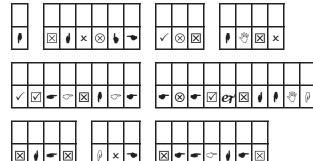




Word Find

LANDOWNER **PLANT** INHERITANCE **FRUIT BEAT** VINEYARD **KINGDOM SON** HARVEST RESPECT **HEIR SERVANTS STONED GOD TENANTS KILLED**

Secret Message



Who is the father?

Who are the tenants?

Who are the servants?

Who is the son?

What is the fruit that we can produce in life?

What will God do if we don't have fruit in our lives?





Homework: Read Matthew 23-24 Finished reading Matthew 21-22

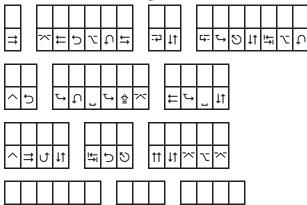


The Wedding Banquet

Matthew 22:1-14

2"The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.4Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited... everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.' 5But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. 7 The king was enraged. ...8Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. 9So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' 10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests."





Maze Help the fisherman get through the fish and go to the wedding.

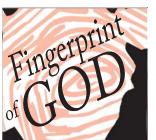
Who is invited to the wedding?

Is it possible to be too busy for the Lord?
How?

Who were the chosen ones?

Will you accept the invitation?

Memorize



"'So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests." Matthew 22:9-10

Homework: Read Matthew 25-26
Finished reading Matthew 23-24

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The Ten Virgins

Matthew 25:1-13

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1"...The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. 4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they... fell asleep. 6 At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom!...' 7 Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' 9 '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.' 10 But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived.... And the door was shut. 11 Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.'

13 Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."

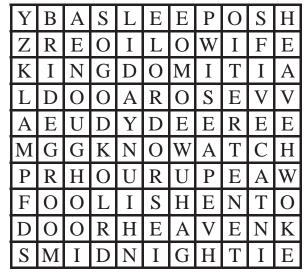
Who are the virgins?

Who is the bridegroom?

Who knows the date that Christ is going to return?

What can you do to be ready for the return of Christ?

What does a person do that is awake?



Word Find

KINGDOM	DOOR
FOOLISH	HOUR
MIDNIGHT	LORD
ENOUGH	LAMP
HEAVEN	FIVE
WATCH	WISE
ASLEEP	TEN
KNOW	DAY
BRIDEGROOM	OIL

Secret Message

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Memorize

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour." Matthew 25:13





Homework: Read Matthew 27-28 Finished reading Matthew 25-26

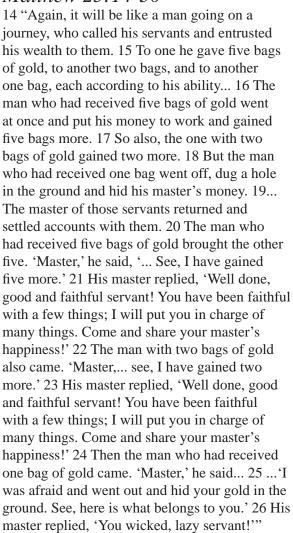






The Gold Coins

Matthew 25:14-30



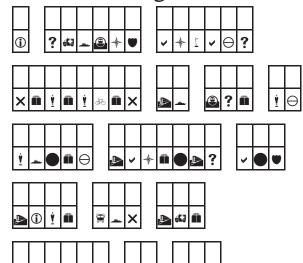
Memorize

"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" Matthew 25:21b

Unscramble t	he	words	to	understand
the message.				

oD ton tel seusJ dinf	
ouy tisgint nad	
gonid githonn.	

Secret Message



What are the different "gold coins" that God has given us?

Since you are Christian, are the works you do important? Why?

Can you compare your works with others?

What happens when we produce double from what God has given us?

Finished reading Matthew 27-28







Detectives Advanced



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