

ESSENTIAL STORIES

June 6/7, 2020 | *Kingdom of Hearts*
Matthew 13:3-23 | Ryan Paulson, Lead Pastor

Jesus' Parables are designed to _____
that leads to _____.

The _____ determines our capacity
to _____.

- _____
- _____
- _____

Embracing _____ allows us to
experience _____.

- Pursue _____ with _____
- Cultivate _____ of the _____

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Kingdom of Hearts
Matthew 13:3-23
Lead Pastor, Ryan Paulson

(Sermon fill-in notes and Scripture references)

23 “Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.” (Proverbs 4:23)

Jesus’ Parables are designed to **create disorientation** that leads to **spiritual awakening**.

18 “Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. (Matthew 13:18-19)

“The Kingdom of God is the range of God’s effective will: where what God wants done, is done.”
Dallas Willard

“The kingdom of God is within you.” (Luke 17:21).

The **health of our heart** determines our capacity to **live in God’s kingdom**.

17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 4:17)

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 5:3)

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. (Matthew 5:4)

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. (Matthew 5:9)

He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. (1 John 4:20)

- **Direct attack**

- **Painful experience**

17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love... (Ephesians 3:17)

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Read Matthew 6:21)

- **Distorted desires**

23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” (Matthew 13:23)

Embracing **God's kingdom** allows us to experience **God's joy**.

5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever **abides in me** and I in him, he it is that **bears much fruit**, for apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

- Pursue **intimacy** with **Jesus**

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16)

- Cultivate **awareness** of the **Spirit**