

Name _____

Parable Themes and Reflections

Below are some summary statements of the key themes of Jesus' parables with a sample parable that illustrates that theme. Reflect on how you have put these themes into practice in your own life or how you might do so in the future. Write your reflections in your journal. Periodically review your progress.

1. God's Kingdom is here. Salvation is taking place. (Mustard Seed: Mk 4:30–32)
 - Describe a marvelous thing God has done for you or someone close to you.

2. God's Kingdom is a free gift. He calls everyone to enter. (Vineyard Workers: Mt 20:1–16)
 - What are three valuable gifts that you have been given for which you are most grateful to our Lord?

3. God loves sinners. We should be like God by forgiving those who have harmed us. (Unforgiving Servant: Mt 18:23–25)
 - Who requires your forgiveness? How do you plan to extend it to the person(s) in the coming weeks?

4. The Good News demands an urgent response. We should always be ready to act on it. (Hidden Treasure: Mt 13:44–46)
 - What concrete act can you do in the next twenty-four hours to show your love for others? Will you carry through?

5. God's Kingdom requires repentance. We should pray and make God our first priority in life by being faithful to him and by loving everyone we meet. (Wedding Feast: Mt 22:1–14)
 - When have you last examined your conscience? Gone to confession? Asked for God's forgiveness? If it has been a while, what would you like to do to change the situation?

6. God's Kingdom costs. It may bring suffering, but we will gain our reward. (Last Judgment: Mt 25:31–46)
 - What have you done for Christ? What are you doing for Christ? What will you do for Christ?

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Lucan Parables

Luke’s Gospel contains some of the most important of Jesus’ parables. Read the following six parables. Then briefly summarize the main point of each. Finally, match its theme with one of the statements given on page 165 of your textbook.

Parable	Summary Statement	Theme Number
Lost Coin and Lost Sheep (Lk 15:3–10)		
Places at Table (Lk 14:7–14)		
Yeast (Lk 13:20–21)		
Faithful Servants (Lk 12:35–48)		
Wedding Banquet (Lk 14:16–24)		
Pharisee and Tax Collector (Lk 18:8–14)		