

Today's Message: This Is Like That
Series: Hidden In Plain Sight
Date: Sunday, February 11, 2024

Big Idea: The Kingdom of God Is A Mystery Hidden In Plain Sight For Those Who Want to See.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. (Matthew 13:1-3)

The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" (Matthew 13:10)

Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." (Matthew 13:36)

Where then did this man get all these things?" And they took offense at him. (Matthew 13:56-57)

1. Those who want to see _____ progress from confusion to curiosity to understanding.

- Parable of the Sower
- Parable of the Weeds
- Parable of the Mustard Seed
- Parable of the Yeast
- Parable of the Hidden Treasure
- Parable of the Pearl
- Parable of the Net

2. The mysteries of the kingdom of God are not complicated but that does not mean they are easy to _____.

He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. (Matthew 13:11-13)

- The parables begin and end with the indiscriminate grace of God.
- The parables reveal that receptivity is based on understanding.
- The parables reveal that anyone can receive the good news if they simply see its extraordinary value.
- The parables reveal the coexistent reality of:
 - Grace and judgement.
 - Good and evil.
 - Reception and reluctance and rejection.
 - Small and massive!
 - Sovereignty and subversiveness.

3. The mysteries of the kingdom are for our _____ and _____.