

Preparing for Pentecost – Parables of the Kingdom

May 4, 2025

Text: *Matthew 13:10–17*

Evaluating Our Response to the Kingdom

- In one ear and _____.
- Shallow _____.
- Worldly _____.
- Full _____.

Coexisting Kingdoms and the Final Judgement

- The kingdom operates in _____.
- Kingdom people _____.
- God will make things right _____.

The Seeming Insignificance of the Kingdom

- The kingdom of God is _____.
- The kingdom of God is _____.

The Incomparable Value of the Kingdom

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- What are your favorite stories? What makes them your favorites?
- How do the stories that Jesus tells in Matthew chapter thirteen draw us in, spark emotions, and break down our defenses?
- Of the four types of soil mentioned in Matthew 13:1-23, which do you think represents how most people respond to the kingdom of God? Which of them reveal the dangers of partial commitment?
- How can we be certain that we are "good soil?" Why is commitment and spiritual depth vastly more important than numbers when it comes to the kingdom?
- Why do members of God's kingdom try to hurry up the separation of good and evil? How can we learn to rest in the truth that God will sort everything out at the end?
- Why do you think that the American church is so enthralled with numbers, importance, and power? What do the parables about the mustard seed and yeast teach us regarding the way God's kingdom expands?
- How does Jesus want us to value His kingdom? How does your life currently align with this kingdom sense of value?
- Reflect on the principles taught in the parables of the kingdom. What needs to change in your life? How will those changes prepare you for Pentecost?