

## **“Why Parables?”**

January 18, 2026 Pastor Todd McAllister

Mark 4:10-12

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, started with the ministry of John the Baptist and developed into a regional ministry in Galilee in chapter one.

As the Gospel of Jesus Christ grew, He encountered many confrontations with the religious leaders in chapter two.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ continued to expand into a country-wide ministry, while the conflict with the religious leaders became deadly in chapter 3.

(continued on other side)

## **“Why Parables?” (continued)**

Jesus made a significant shift in His Gospel ministry by using \_\_\_\_\_ in chapter four.

*“Then the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” Matthew 13:10*

What is a parable? A short story that both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ truth about the kingdom of God.

Why parables?

Two \_\_\_\_\_ of people Mark 4:11-12

“To \_\_\_\_\_”

\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ

\_\_\_\_\_ to understand the truth

\_\_\_\_\_ the secret of the Kingdom of God  
*Jeremiah 29:12-13*

“ \_\_\_\_\_ outside”

\_\_\_\_\_ Christ

\_\_\_\_\_ not hear

\_\_\_\_\_ not hear

*Mark 4:12; Mark 7:6-7*

⇒ Which group describes you?

⇒ When the Word of God is taught do you earnestly seek to understand or do you not really understand?

⇒ How will you approach the study of Parables? As one who seeks to understand or as one whose heart is far from the Lord?

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*“Then the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” Matthew 13:10*

What is a parable? A short story that both **reveals** and **conceals** truth about the kingdom of God.

Why parables?

Two **groups** of people Mark 4:11-12

“To **you**”

**Followers** of Christ

**Seek** to understand the truth

**Given** the secret of the Kingdom of God  
*Jeremiah 29:12-13*

“**Those** outside”

**Reject** Christ

**Would** not hear

**Could** not hear  
*Mark 4:12; Mark 7:6-7*

- ⇒ Which group describes you?
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- ⇒ How will you approach the study of Parables? As one who seeks to understand or as one whose heart is far from the Lord?