

the parable of the net.

MATTHEW 13:47-50



I. The disciples had some glaring _____ about the kingdom.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."
John 10:10

They were expecting their _____.

II. Their concept of the kingdom was self-centered and focused on immediate _____.

"Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?" Acts 1:6 NLT

Jesus had not called them to witness the restoration of the kingdom, but to _____ to His arrival as the King.

- net** • kingdom of heaven
- good fish** • the righteous
- bad fish** • the wicked
- the men** • angels

III. For now, the kingdom is about casting _____, not casting aside; it's about _____, not feasting.

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" Matthew 4:19 NLT

"Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved." Romans 10:13 NLT

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!" Romans 10:13-15 NLT

- good**
(Greek) *kalos*
genuine, approved
- bad**
(Greek) *sapros*
corrupt, worthless
- righteous**
(Greek) *dikaios*
just, approved
- wicked**
(Greek) *ponēros*
evil, diseased

to the point.

- We have been called to share the Good _____, not live the good _____.
- We have been commanded to _____, not _____.
- And we are to fish as long as the Son is still _____.

to the point.

DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

1. Read Matthew 13:47-50. In what ways is this parable different from previous parables in this chapter?

2. What misconceptions did the disciples have about the kingdom of God? Do you relate to those? How does this parable change what you believe about the kingdom?

3. Name some ways in which we can become too focused on the present world instead of on the kingdom to come. What's the remedy for this mindset?

4. There is a mixture of "good fish" and "bad fish" in the church for now, and we can't tell the difference between them. What are some ways we can guard our own growth in righteousness even as we welcome others? How can we be wise and discerning without being discriminatory?

5. How have you previously been expecting "your best life now," and how has this sermon given you a new perspective on trials and suffering?

6. What should you be doing as you wait for God's kingdom to come, according to Jesus in this parable? How will your daily actions look different from now on as you obey Him?

"There is inherent in this parable the implication that the Church will always be a mixture. It has always been one of the accusations leveled against the Church that it has so many unsatisfactory members, that, in fact, the people inside it are little or no better than the people outside it. The plain implication of this parable is that it cannot be any other way because the net as it sweeps the sea gathers all kinds of things into itself. We can go further than that. The very same accusation, in principle, was leveled against Jesus. He was accused of being surrounded by extremely unsatisfactory people. His answer still stands, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick' (Matthew 9:12). Someone has said that you could not possibly use it as an accusation against a hospital that it is full of people who are ill. It is precisely to take these people in that it exists. Its job, the reason for its being, is to cure such people. There is indeed something wrong with a Church which has no effect on the lives of its people; but a Church which welcomes sinners is only fulfilling its true function. We must remember two things. First, if the Church were a place for perfect people there would be no members at all. Second, as has been said long ago, what really matters is not so much where a man is as the direction in which he is facing. The Church must remain a mixture but if she is acting as the physician of Christ, and if the people in her are facing in the right direction, facing Christ, then the fact that she is a mixture is her glory and not her condemnation."

William Barclay

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. That's a great spot to see what's coming up!

GET THE JUNE DATE NIGHT EXPERIENCE THIS WEDNESDAY. Part of our Family Focused ministry vision this year is equipping couples with tools for strengthening their relationships. That's where date nights come in! Every month we're creating a new date night experience (including a dinner recipe, games, conversation starters, etc.) for you and your favorite person to enjoy together. Go ahead and save this Friday, June 11 for your next date and check www.ccbcfamily.org/events this Wednesday to get the entire June date night experience.

LADIES, MAKE COMMON GROUND A PART OF YOUR LUNCH HOUR THIS WEEK. Common Ground believes it all matters—your work, your life and your faith. That's why they gather twice a week—Mondays and Wednesdays at noon—for friendship, encouragement and biblical truth. If you'd like a mid-day break, join them this week! On Monday they're continuing their "Wisdom for the Journey" series virtually and on Wednesday, they're gathering in person. Visit www.CommonGroundFW.org for details or email them at CommonGroundFortWorth@gmail.com.

JOIN US AT A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK. If you're looking for a place to plug in, make some friends and study the Bible this summer, Band of Brothers and Women in the Word's short studies are great places to start. Men, Band of Brothers is studying the story of Jonah on Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Ladies, Women in the Word is in the book of Judges with a study called "Amazing Grace" on Thursdays at 7 p.m. Sign up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

KNOW A COLLEGE STUDENT STAYING IN TOWN FOR THE SUMMER? Christ Chapel College is meeting up all summer for Bible studies, hangouts and more. Follow @christchapelcollege on Instagram to find out what's coming next.

RENOVATE IS HANGING OUT ALL SUMMER. For the latest on where you can find the young adult community of Renovate this Wednesday (and every week after that), follow @renovateftw on Instagram or see more at www.renovateftw.org.

PLAN SUMMER FOR YOUR KIDS AT WWW.CCBCFAMILY.ORG/SUMMER. Whether your child is in elementary, middle or high school, they'll love what our team's putting together—camps, activities, hangouts and more. Head to www.ccbcfamily.org/summer to plan, and then share the link with a friend.

LISTEN TO SOMETHING NEW THIS SUMMER ON THE CCBC APP. If you're looking for some hope and truth to ground you this summer, the Christ Chapel app is home to messages from our Sunday teaching team, Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Renovate and more. Search "Christ Chapel Bible Church" wherever you get your apps.

LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—just text "CCBCFW" to 833-422-7200 to get started.

