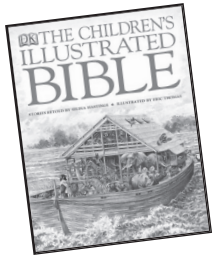


Ordinary Time, Proper 22



The Children's Illustrated Bible
page 209

The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to people that produce the fruits of the kingdom.

—Matthew 21:43 adapted

☐ Jesus Teaches Sharing

Share the parable of the vineyard from Matthew 21:33-46 by having kids dramatize the skit on their KidsPage. Show the photo of a vineyard on page 209 of *The Children's Illustrated Bible*. This is one of the few recorded times that Jesus asked his followers to finish the story. How would it end? After the drama, discuss:

1. What do you think would happen next? Be open to all ideas, but ask what each ending might teach us.
2. What does this parable mean? Why did Jesus teach it?

In this parable, the landowner is like God. The renters are people who won't share. They want everything God gives them for themselves. God has given us this wonderful earth and one another to care for. God wants us to share the good things we have and to give back to God. God even gave the renters Jesus, the son, and they still hurt him. God does not want renters like those in the parable.

After telling the parable, Jesus said that the kingdom of God will be taken away from those who are like the renters, and it will be given to people who do good things for the kingdom of heaven. Do we make good choices with the blessings we receive from God, too?

☐ Basketball Sharing

With chalk, draw lines on a wall spaced about a foot apart. (To protect the wall, tape up a large piece of paper to write on.) Have kids write a different gift they have in each space. Line kids up several feet away from the wall, and challenge them to bounce a basketball against the gift they would like to share with others, first calling out the gift. If they successfully bounce the ball against that space, they may play again until they miss.



- great food
- video games
- good at math
- friendly parents
- kittens

☐ Sharing Gifts

Give each kid paper and pencil. Have them fold their paper in half, then open it. On the left side, have them write skills (gifts) they have. On the right, have them write what they think God would ask them to do. Now ask them to draw a line between the items on each side. What do they get? One kid may have "skateboarding" lined up with "be a witness." Ask them how they can use a skateboard to be like Jesus? (Make friends with others who skate, don't hurt anyone, teach others what you know, play fair, etc.) Talk with the kids in class so each one has at least one matchup they understand. Ask kids to draw a picture on the back of one of their matchups. This is what sharing your gifts means!

My Skills (gifts)	Disciple Skills
skateboarding	be a witness
video games	share blessings
drawing	have faith
math	give generously



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—Matthew 21:43 adapted

What is this man doing? Why is he doing it? How is this like what Jesus said to do in the parable of the vineyard?

Parable of the Vineyard

Jesus: The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who planted a vineyard. He built a wall around it, built a watchtower, and dug a winepress to squeeze grapes into wine. The landowner rented his vineyard to workers. When it was harvest time, he sent his servants to the land to collect his share of the harvest.

Servant: Give us the landowner's portion of the harvest.

Renters: We will not!

Jesus: The renters killed the servant. The landowner sent more servants.

Servant: Give us the landowner's portion of the harvest.

Renters: We will not!

Jesus: The renters killed the servant. Then the landowner sent his son.

Son: Give me my father's portion of the harvest.

Renters: We will not! And we will take your inheritance too!

Jesus: The renters killed the son. What do you think happened next?

—Matthew 21:33–46 adapted

Word Search

Find these words:

church world care love
Jesus hope God new

B	H	J	G	O	D
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