

## **Gospel of Matthew “The Parable of the Net”**

**Matthew 13:47-52**

**June 18, 2023**

Matthew 13:47-52

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Last 2 Parables of Matthew 13

A familiar reminder

The kingdom of heaven is the redemptive rule or reign of God in Christ.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Mark 10:15

Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."

The 7th parable is about fishing.

Romans 3:20–23

For by works of the law, no human being will be justified in his sight since through the law comes knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

We need a faithful rescuer.

Hebrews 4:14–15

Since then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God; let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

We couldn't get to him, so he came to us.

When the disciples say "yes" they respond with childlike faith.

### **Grow Group Discussion Questions**

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- What has been your favorite parable from Matthew 13? Why has this parable been meaningful to you?
- Why did most people in the nation of Israel think they were already in the kingdom? How was Jesus changing their perspective with the parable of the net?
- What reasons might people think they are "in" the kingdom but really be on the outside?
- How do we get into the kingdom of God? How does knowing it's his work and not our, his righteousness, his grace, his mercy encourage you? How do these kingdom realities challenge and encourage you?
- In what way is Jesus the faithful rescuer we all need?
- How does his rescue allow us access to God? In what ways is Hebrews 4 special to the believer?
- When the disciples say "yes" to Jesus how do they model childlike faith? Why does their simplicity safeguard their sincerity? What might the Lord be asking you to simply say yes to in this season of life?
- From your Grow Group time, what is an idea or two from your discussion that you can work to apply this week?

If time permits use

Colossians 1:15–23 to close your time in prayer.