

Questions for Personal Study or Group Discussion

Open

- Other than the Bible, what book or books have you read multiple times? Give an example of something that you learned through repeated readings.

Read

- Matthew 13:51-52

Observe

- What does Jesus ask his disciples in verse 51? What do you think he meant by that? What is Jesus saying when he compares the scribe to the master of the house?
- We've read seven parables about the kingdom of God: the sower, the good and bad seeds, the mustard seed, the leaven, the treasure hidden in a field, the pearl of great value, and the net. What have they taught you about the kingdom of heaven?
- Has your understanding of the kingdom of heaven changed after the sermons on the parables of Matthew 13? How?

Apply

- Which of the kingdom parables most clearly challenges you to action? What are you going to do with that?
- Imagine that someone who is not a follower of Christ asks you what the kingdom of heaven is. How would you describe the kingdom to them? Why?

Prayer

High King of Heaven, your kingdom is so different from the kingdoms of this world. Show me the way I should live, the things I should say, the actions I should take as a citizen of your kingdom. Amen.

Recommended Reading

- The Shift Church 2026 Lenten Guides – Week 5

