

THE SUNDAY PAPER

Year A
PROPER
12 TRACK
1

Jesus's parables are not always stories. Sometimes they are so short that they are more like a picture than a story. Jesus often used two or three short parables, one after another, to help people imagine God's Kingdom. He would say, "God's Kingdom is like this—and also like that."

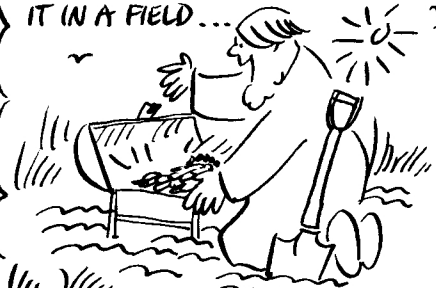
GOD'S KINGDOM IS LIKE...

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

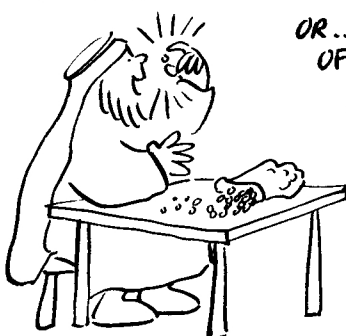
JESUS TOLD THE PEOPLE AND HIS DISCIPLES MANY PARABLES TO EXPLAIN GOD'S KINGDOM!



OR LISTEN! GOD'S KINGDOM IS LIKE BURIED TREASURE! A MAN FOUND IT IN A FIELD ...



... AND WENT AND SOLD EVERYTHING HE OWNED, TO BUY THAT FIELD!



OR ... IT'S LIKE A VERY VALUABLE PEARL! IN ORDER TO BUY IT (MATTHEW 13:46)!

OR ... IT'S LIKE A FISHNET! IT CATCHES FISH OF EVERY KIND, AND PEOPLE HAUL IT IN ...



... AND SORT THE CATCH! THEY KEEP THE GOOD FISH, AND THROW AWAY THE BAD ONES!

These little parables work together to teach us about God's Kingdom. They tell us that God's Kingdom is like something so small that it hardly seems to matter, but it grows and grows. They tell us God's Kingdom is so special that people will want it more than anything. But parables are stories, so they don't just give us simple answers about God's Kingdom. Instead, they show us how to think and wonder about it.

GENESIS 29:28

(Jacob marries Leah and Rachel, and his family begins to grow)



PSALM 105:4

"Look for the Lord at all times; remember the wonderful things he has done"



ROMANS 8:29

"God has chosen us, to be made like Jesus his Son, in his Kingdom"

