

# "Earthly Stories with Heavenly Truths"

Dan Jenkins

The disciples of Jesus had no idea about the nature of the kingdom Jesus had come to establish. The Old Testament was filled with promises of the coming King and His kingdom, but no one on this earth understood what it would be like (1 Cor. 2:8-9). Jesus used parables to help those disciples see what was about to happen.

In Matthew chapter thirteen, there are eight parables He gave to them. The first describes the coming kingdom being like a man sowing seed. They could not comprehend the meaning and asked Him to explain. The second parable is about a man who sowed seeds into his field and the enemy who came at night and sowed tares (weeds) in that field. They did not comprehend this parable, so He also had to explain to them its meaning.

The failure to understand these beginning parables blocks the ability to find the truths of God. Mark's account adds one thought not found in either Matthew or Luke's account. "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables?" (Mark 4:13). One cannot comprehend the nature of the kingdom of heaven until he grasps what Jesus was saying. Those who view the coming of the kingdom as being in the future with Jesus establishing His kingdom and reigning on the earth for a thousand years have not begun to understand these earthly stories with a heavenly meaning which Jesus taught.

Jesus only explains the first two parables, and they become the basis of seeing the meaning of all the parables. You may think you do not know much about the Bible, but do you understand these parables? You likely know more than you think. These stories open the door to deeper truths.

Do you know what the seed was which was sowed in four different types of soil? Do you know what each of those kinds of soils describe? Do you know the identity of the man who sowed the seed in the story of the tares? Do you know who the enemy was who secretly sowed weeds in the field where the good seed was sown?

The disciples had no idea what Jesus was saying, but because He explained the meaning of these parables you can know the answers to each of the questions asked in the previous paragraph. If you do not know, I urge you to simply sit down and read the accounts in Matthew 13 and Luke 8. If you already know the answers, I urge you to slowly read the verses again and pay attention to every word Jesus used. You may not know them as well as you think you do.

One cannot read until he learns the alphabet, and one cannot understand the kingdom until he learns the parables!



# Welcome

TO  
KOUNTZE  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Oct.

"Repent and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

*Acts 2:38*

17<sup>th</sup>

## Meeting Times

Sunday Bible Class – 9:30

AM Worship – 10:30

PM Worship – 1:30

Wednesday Night Bible Class – 7:00

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Kountze Church of Christ

# Today's Lessons

AM.....Receiving the Holy Spirit  
PM.....In the Face of Death

## Men to Serve

Announcements.....  
Song Leader.....Sterling McDonald  
Opening Prayer.....  
Communion Leader.....Steve Deatruck  
Sermon.....Corey Tackett  
Closing Prayer.....

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

- There will be a men's business meeting today.
- Carolyn's sister, Jeanie Beck, passed away Thursday.
- If you have other announcements to be added to next week's bulletin, please give them to Corey.

Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – Fall Festival / Trunk-or-Treat  
Oct 31<sup>st</sup> – Church Homecoming

## Records

Sunday AM..... Wednesday PM.....N/A  
Sunday PM..... Contribution.....N/A

### Birthdays:

11.....Harper McDonald  
22.....Amber McDonald  
22.....Shirley Morris  
23.....Trish Fisher  
24.....Carol McDonald  
25.....Dwayne Baker  
26.....Fred Johnson

### Anniversaries:

02.....Corey & Mattie  
14.....Bobby & Reba

## Visitors,

You are welcome and wanted. We are glad you made the decision to be with us.

If you have any questions or needs, please reach out to any of our members and we'll be more than happy to help you.

If you're looking for a Church home, we'd love the opportunity to study with you and have you join our congregation's family.

## Prayer Requests and Updates

### Members:

- Dwayne Baker
- Ed & Linda Bumstead
- Gaylon & Gladys Williams
- Chris & Sarah Andrews

### Family and Friends:

- Tony Wright
- Kyle Shavers
- Danny Roberts
- The Walter's family
- Shawn Gunter
- Susan Golden
- Kyle Tantillo
- Donna Melton