



The Parables of Jesus

A Worship Series for the Summer of '19

Stranger Than Fiction

“...baptize the imagination and the intellect follows.”

C.S. Lewis

**“What unites people? Armies? Gold? Flags? Stories.
There’s nothing more powerful in the world than a
good story. Nothing can stop it. No enemy can defeat it.”**

Tyrion Lanister (*Game of Thrones*)

BACKSTORY

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 14:11

The Parable of the Great Banquet

Luke 14:12-24

12 He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. 13 But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, 14 and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

15 When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. 17 And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ 18 But they all alike began to make excuses.

The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.' 19 And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' 20 And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' 21 So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant,

'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' 22 And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' 23 And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. 24 For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"

SUMMARY

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‘God is the eccentric Host, who when the country club crowd all turned out to have other things more important to do than come live it up with Him, goes out into the skid rows, soup kitchens, and charity wards and brings home a freak show”

Francis Beuchner

***(Telling the Truth: The Gospel as Tragedy,
Comedy, and Fairy Tale)***

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WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS PARABLE?

Dumb & Dumber

Quantum of Solace

**“For spiritual nature, like bodily nature will be served:
deny it food and it will gobble poison.”**

C.S. Lewis (*Present Concerns*)

Chocolat

**“Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more. It is a tale,
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.”**

William Shakespeare (Macbeth)

THE GREATER FEAST

**Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one
who takes refuge in him.**

Psalm 34:8

**I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me shall not hunger,
and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.**

John 6:35

Bible Project

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord...for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness.

Isaiah 61:10

“When the Bible refers to us as sheep it’s actually a spiritual insult. We’re not a dog or a cat, where the owner calls us and we eventually find our way home. We are foolish sheep, who wander up dangerous ledges chasing food (idols in life) and end up lost. We need a Shepherd to come get us, put us on His shoulders and bring us home. We need to be rescued,”

Tim Keller (from the sermon *He Welcomes Sinners*)

Green Eggs & Ham

**For if while we were enemies,
we were reconciled to God through
the death of his Son, much more surely,
having been reconciled, will we
be saved by his life.**

Romans 5:10

All we need is to know we need.

The new building is risky.

TAKEAWAYS

Poldark