



Parables of Jesus
Summer Reading Plan

Parable Reading Plan – *Read, Reflect, Pray*

<u>DATES</u>	<u>PARABLE</u>	<u>PASSAGE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> June 8 - 14	<i>Will You Be My Neighbor</i>	Luke 10:25-37
<input type="checkbox"/> June 15 - 21	<i>Lost Sheep</i>	Luke 15
<input type="checkbox"/> June 22 - 28	<i>Shameless Audacity</i>	Luke 11:1-15
<input type="checkbox"/> June 29 - July 5	<i>Bigger Tables</i>	Luke 14:1-24
<input type="checkbox"/> July 6 - 12	<i>The Rascal</i>	Luke 16:1-9
<input type="checkbox"/> July 13 - 19	<i>The Widow</i>	Luke 18:1-8
<input type="checkbox"/> July 20 - 26	<i>The Minimalist</i>	Luke 19:11-27
<input type="checkbox"/> July 27 - August 2	<i>Invisible Man</i>	Luke 16:19-31
<input type="checkbox"/> August 3 - 9	<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	Luke 18:9-14
<input type="checkbox"/> August 10 - 16	<i>Built to Last</i>	Luke 12:13-31
<input type="checkbox"/> August 17 - 23	<i>The Lost Brothers</i>	Luke 15

On the back of this guide, you'll find a simple framework for reading the parables with curiosity, reflection, and openness to transformation. As you move through this reading plan, use these prompts to help you slow down, listen deeply, and consider how the stories of Jesus might shape your life today.

READING THE PARABLES TODAY

How can we hear the parables with fresh ears, grasp their meaning, and share them in life-giving ways today? To do so, we need to slow down, engage deeply, and allow them to challenge and change us.

1. Listen attentively

Begin with quiet, reflective listening. Read the parable slowly and thoughtfully, resisting the urge to skim. In a world full of noise and distraction, true listening requires intentional silence.

Let the story settle in your mind and imagination. Notice what stands out:

- Which words or images catch your attention?
- What feels familiar or different?
- What surprises or unsettles you?

Take time to ponder. Like digging for hidden treasure, deeper meaning comes through patience. Enter the story – imagine the characters, feel the scene, and ask how it connects to your own life. Invite the Holy Spirit to guide your reflection.

2. Make the parable present

Next, connect the parable to your life today. Be fully present to it, and let it speak into your current experience.

Ask yourself:

- Where do I see myself in this story?
- What part of my life does it touch?
- How is my world similar or different?
- What is it asking of me?

Jesus used parables to provoke reflection and invite metanoia – a change of mind and heart. They are not meant merely to stir emotion but to challenge how we think and live.

For example, do they call you to greater compassion, less judgment, deeper generosity, or concern for the poor? If taken seriously, how might they change your life?

3. Let yourself be transformed

Finally, act on what you've received. The parables call for more than reflection – they call for change.

They invite you to:

- Let go of prejudice and self-righteousness
- Embrace humility and compassion
- Live with greater purpose, creativity, and commitment

Ask: What concrete step can I take now?

IMPLICATIONS TODAY

Prayerful reflection on the parables can transform us. As we internalize their message, our attitudes shift – we become more compassionate, forgiving, and aligned with the life of Jesus.