



Sermon Study Guide for April 6, 2025

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: The Vineyard Owner's Son

In this parable, Jesus talks about the vineyard owner who sends servants, and then his own son. The tenants reject, beat, and even kill the heir. Jesus has a pointed comment about that.

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. Parables are an earthly story, with a heavenly meaning. What is your favorite parable?
2. Do you know someone who is a great storyteller? What about them makes them a great storyteller?

In the Word: Read Luke 20:1-20

3. Look at verses 1-9. AH, the age old question of authority. Who has it? Who gives it? The chief priests and teachers of the law and even the elders ask Jesus about His authority, most likely referencing the cleansing of the temple (End of chapter 19) Why is this collection of 'authorities' asking Jesus about where He gets His authority?
4. The workers of the vineyard are not happy with the ones the Vineyard Owner sends. They are simply there to do the master's work that they are told to do. Think back to many of the prophets...Isn't this what Israel often did with their prophets? What is the connection here?
5. There's a connection in this parable to being about Jesus. Take a closer look at verse 13. Now look back at Luke 3:21-22. Both the Father and the Father in the parable make mention of the son whom they love. Or their beloved Son. How does this help us see that this parable is about Jesus?
6. Jesus often speaks in parables. Some of the time, the disciples and the hearers understand what is going on. It seems that the chief priests and scribes who are the main hearers of this parable, understand this time. Why is this such a pointed comment to them?

7. Jesus asks the group of authorities around him their meaning of Psalm 118:22, referencing the cornerstone. Look then to Ephesians 2:19-22. Putting all of that together, and the previous questions, why are the authorities looking to arrest Jesus?

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

8. I always love when after a parable Jesus takes time to explain it to His disciples. That doesn't happen here, but this parable is pretty straightforward. In light of our Cornerstone, Jesus, being the one rejected, but now the one on whom our faith and hope is built, how can it make it easier if we are rejected or belittled for our faith?
9. This section of scripture takes place after Palm Sunday, and is one of the main moves before Jesus starts His final trek to the cross. With Holy Week starting next week, which of the services is your favorite? And with that in mind, which services can you be inviting people to?
10. The parable that Jesus proclaims shows how the people of Israel rejected the prophets, but God always welcomed them back. With that in mind, how can you encourage and share the love that no matter what, God welcomes back those who repent?

Prayer: Thank God that He sent His beloved Son to this world to live, die, and rise that you might have eternal life! Ask God that He would help you to have the courage and boldness to proclaim His love and salvation. Thank God for the legacies of faith that have gone before you. Thank God for the blessing that is our church family. Ask God that He would be with and watch over the Holy Week services and invitations to the many events going on!

Next Week: An Unexpected Entry

As Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, the crowd shouted, "Hosanna!" Jesus would be their king, but perhaps not the king they expected.

Coming up: Holy week services, Easter Egg Hunt and Friendship Sunday April 27th. How is God moving you to give a special invitation?