

The Pastor's Bible Study

An interactive study of the Gospel of Matthew¹

Week 14 ~ Exploring Chapter 13

Personal Study Time:

(Use the following suggestions in your personal Bible study time this week to prepare for our class discussion next Saturday.)

- Start a new section in your Matthew notebook and label it chapter 13
- Read chapter 13 at least two times and then answer the following questions in your notebook.
 - There are seven parables in this chapter (eight, if verse 52 is viewed as a parable). If possible, every morning this week chose a different parable and spend time reading and praying over it. Then describe in a short sentence the major lesson in the parable. Finally, playfully consider if the Holy Spirit is calling you to apply this principle in your life today.
- Re-read Chapter 13:1-17 and then answer the following questions
 - List the reasons given in chapter 13 for Jesus' teaching in parables.
 - Given the problem in chapters 11 and 12, what other reason might be added to that list?
 - Can you think of still other reasons?
- Re-read Chapter 13:53-58 twice and then answer the following questions.
 - In one or two paragraphs, discuss the significance of 13:53-58.
 - The word amazed (astonished and marvelled, KJV) has been used twice by Matthew already. Use a concordance to find those occurrences. Then discuss the implications of the word's repeated use. Repeat the process to discover the other mentions of the leading phrase in 13:53. Again, what are the implications of its repeated use?
- Are you willing to sell all that I have for the kingdom? In what specific areas do you seem to be holding back sections of you life from Jesus' lordship?

¹ Quoted and/or adapted from George R. Knight, *Matthew: The Gospel of the Kingdom*, The Abundant Life Bible Amplifier (Boise, Idaho: Pacific Press Pub. Association, 1994).