

An Introduction to Parables

Jesus used parables to tell stories with important messages. These short stories can be found in the New Testament.

Parables encourage us to use our imaginations to illustrate the story.

Parables don't always answer all of the questions who, what, where, when, why and how.

Looking at the Parable of the Sower: (Matthew 13:1-23)

***You can use this for discussion

Who? *The sower*

What? *Went out to sow seeds*

Where? *In his field*

When? *We don't know, but we can infer that it is at sowing time.*

Why? *Not answered*

How? *Jesus uses the story to teach a lesson*

The last sentence of Jesus' parables usually called for a response from his listeners.

In a parable, the main point is very clear.

Jesus often used analogies in the parables. For example, "The Kingdom of Heaven is like ..." (Matthew 13:31)