**February Confirmation Make-up Assignment**

**This month, our focus was on the parable teachings of Jesus, and how those parables can still teach us today.**

Parable: a simple, earthly story that teaches a greater heavenly truth

Many of Jesus’ parables focused on aspects of life that the people would’ve been familiar with…especially farming/agriculture and the relationship of people to other people or their property.

**Morality Parables and Kingdom of Heaven Parables**

We can sort Jesus’ parables into 2 different categories: morality parables and “Kingdom of Heaven” parables.

The Kingdom of Heaven parables are easy to identify, because they usually begin with “The kingdom of heaven is like…” See the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great worth in Matthew 13:44-46.

Define “morality”:

Based on that definition, what do you think the purpose of morality parables is?

See the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25:37. What is the moral lesson of this parable?

**Who does the “acting” in a parable?**

Sometimes, figuring out where you (or people, in general) fit in the parable, and where God is present can change our understanding of the lesson.

Consider again the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great worth. What is the lesson if we are the man or the merchant?

What if we put God in the position of the man or the merchant? How does that change the meaning?

Then where are we? And who/what does God give up in order to get the treasure or the pearl?

**Your Turn:**

**Choose one of these 2 parables, and answer the following questions.**

The Lost Sheep/The Lost Coin – Luke 15:4-10

The Workers in the Vineyard – Matthew 20:1-16

1. Is it a morality parable or a “Kingdom of Heaven” parable?
2. What part do we play in the story, if any?
3. What part does God play?
4. What’s the lesson to be learned?