



ONLINE

Weekly Bible Study Wednesday, October 14, 2024

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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# Gathered by God, We Live Our Faith with: Compassion, Grace, Gratitude, and Joy.

**Introduction:** We are beginning a series of studies on Jesus' parables. Parables can be short riddles, quick sayings, or short illustrative stories. The purpose is for the student to ponder the parable, seeking its meaning through discernment and prayer.

Think back to your favorite class. Did the teacher always give you direct answers to your questions? Or, did the teacher use techniques that helped you discover answers for yourself? This second approach is the approach Jesus often used in his teaching. Jesus offers us parables to ponder the mysteries of God, the Realm of God, and where faith leads us in this life. We gather together to read these parables and discern their meaning for our lives.

#### Read: Mark 13:31-35

Open your Bible and read through the passage. Once you have read through this passage, take three large deep breaths, read the passage a second time. Take note of what words jump out at you. What words do you need to look up for clarity of definition. Take three large deep breaths again. Read the passage one more time.

### Seek:

When you open scripture and read it, what are you looking for scripture to offer you?

When Jesus speaks in parables, do you remember a sermon given on that parable that helps you discover it meaning? Which sermon comes to mind when you read through the mustard seed or leavening yeast parables?

If you were sitting with Jesus, what clarity from his parables would you ask for?

## Prav

Lord Jesus, you provide so much opportunity to discern your wisdom through the many parables recorded in scripture. Send your Holy Spirit into me that I may better hear your teaching and grow in faith and love toward you and my neighbor as these parables unravel the mysteries of your kingdom to me. In your holy name, Amen.