

Cicero who lived in Rome between 106 – 43 BC said that, "gratitude is not only the greatest of the virtues but the parent of all others".



Dr. Robert Emmons "A practice of gratitude raises your 'happiness set-point' so you can remain at a higher level of happiness regardless of outside circumstances."



Colossians 3:17

"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."



Ephesians 5:19 "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything."



Psalm 69:30

"I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving."



Mark 3:34

"In fact, in his **public** ministry he never taught without using

parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them."



Parable:— A placing of one thing by the side of another. A practical story, often framed as a simile, that illustrates a spiritual truth. An earthly story with a heavenly meaning.



Matthew 13:10-11

"And the disciples came and said to Him, 'Why do You speak to them in parables?' He answered and said to them, 'Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given."



Mark L. Bailey – Guidelines for **Interpreting Jesus' Parables** "Jesus often told parables to answer a question, meet a challenge, or invite the hearers to change their thinking. To discover the need that prompted the parable is a significant step toward unlocking its meaning within its original context." The Jesus Trip

Mark 4:13 "Then Jesus said to them, 'If you can't understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand <u>all the other</u> parables? ... good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit:"" Heart is your hearing mechanism.



Luke 18:6-8

"Then the Lord said, 'Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to The Jesus them quickly!"

Luke 10:25-37

"Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus replied, 'What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?' The man answered, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor The Je as yourself.'..."

"... 'Right!' Jesus told him. 'Do this and you will live!' The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied with a story:... Parable of The Good Samaritan: -a story where the hero was from a group Jews wouldn't associate with.



Luke 15:1-ff

"Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." So He spoke this parable to them, saying:"

Lost – sheep, coin, son.



Jesus — Never At Home With The religious Crowd. Luke 14:1-24

- 1. Attends Knowing He Is Hated
- 2. Heals On The Sabbath
- 3. Rebukes The Best Seat Takers
- 4. Rebukes The Host Over Guests
- 5. Don't Miss Out On My Party!



Hyperbole: — a figure of speech in which exaggeration is used for emphasis or effect as an extravagant statement.
vs 26 "If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else ..."

vs 27 "And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple ..."

vs33 "So you cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own"

Jesus placed celebration over religious tradition.

- Religious practiced the discipleship of **SEPARATION**.
- Jesus practiced the discipleship of **ASSOCIATION**.
- Jesus built redemptive relationships. He went to where the people were. Approached everyone!!! The Jesus Trive

Grace supplies - Law demands. Law demands righteousness Grace supplies righteousness Law says, "I will by no means clear the guilty. I'll visit the iniquity of the fathers to the third and fourth generation". Grace says, "I'll be merciful to their

iniquity and their sins and the seguence of th

John 6:63-69 "The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But some of you do not believe me.' (For Jesus knew from the beginning which ones didn't believe, and he knew who would betray him.) Then he said, 'That is why I said that people can't come to me unless the Father gives them to me. ..."

"... At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, "Are you also going to leave?"Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God."



Luke 15

Jesus – He goes after the one. Holy Spirit — Committed to bring forth the image of Christ in you. Father — His love for you is extravagant. You don't deserve it and never will. You are His child!



"The older brother was angry and wouldn't go in. His father came out and begged him, but he replied, 'All these years I've slaved for you and never once refused to do a single thing you told me to. And in all that time you never gave me even one young goat for a feast with my friends." The Jesus Trips

