



I. Read Mark 4:1-20

- A. How would you explain what a parable is, in your own words?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. What does the parable (4:3-9) and its explanation (4:13-20) teach you about listening/hearing?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. Describe the distinction between insiders and outsiders in verses 10-12.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- D. How does election expose entitlement and emphasize grace?

II. Read Mark 4:21-34

- A. In Mark 4:11, Jesus told the disciples, "To you has been given *the secret* of the kingdom of God." How has the kingdom of God been made manifest and come to light (4:21-25)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. What do the parables in verses 26-32 teach you about the triumph of God's kingdom?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. How can focusing on the triumph of Christ's kingdom, as a church, enable us to turn away from entitlement?