

Script - The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...

Narrator: Jesus told us many stories about the kingdom of heaven.

[Jesus and the disciples occupy stage right while action takes place center stage]

Jesus: The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

[Scene: A happy farmer carrying a sack of seed walks across the stage; reaching in to the sack and scattering the seed along the ground.]

Jesus: But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away.

[Scene: A sinister looking person (angry, snarling, mean) carrying a sack of seed walks across the stage; reaching in to the sack and scattering the seed along the ground, then leaves laughing.]

Jesus: When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

[Scene: The farmer returns with a servant to look over the field.]

Servant: [to the farmer] Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?

Farmer: An enemy did this!

Servant: Do you want us to go and pull them up?

Farmer: No, because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. [Pause] Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.

[Scene, the Farmer and the Servant leave the stage]

Jesus: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

[Scene, a farmer and another person come onto the stage. The other person will be the seed, sitting on the floor in a tucked position, head down as small as possible.]

Jesus: A man took the mustard seed and planted in his field.

[Scene, the farmer "plants" the seed, motioning with their hands to cover up the other person on the floor, then walks off the stage]

Jesus: Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

[Scene: slowly the person on the floor rises up and gets taller and spreads out their arms like a tree. After a short pause, walks off stage]

Jesus: The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour.

[Scene: a person comes on stage with a bowl. The person sits down with the bowl in their lap and begins mixing with their hands.]

Jesus: The yeast worked all through the dough.

[Scene: the person leaves the stage]

Narrator: Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.

Disciple: [to Jesus] Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.

[Scene: repeat the first scene with the farmer sowing the seed]

Jesus: [pointing to the farmer] The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man.

[Scene, as the farmer walks across the stage sowing the seed]

Jesus: [pointing to the ground] The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the children of the kingdom.

[Scene, the sinister looking person comes back to sow seed and leaves the stage]

Jesus: The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil.

[Scene, the farmer and two servants come back on stage, looking over the field. The servants pretend to gather the grain.]

Jesus: The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

[pause]

Jesus: The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.

[Scene, a person comes on stage and becomes excited to find something on the ground.]

Jesus: When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

[Scene, the person leaves the stage happy]

Jesus: Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

[Scene, the person comes on stage looking carefully at a tray of pretend jewelry.]

Jesus: When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

[Scene, the person finds something and becomes so happy, then leaves the stage]

Jesus: Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.

[Scene, a fisherman comes onstage casting a net on the ground, then pulling it back.]

Jesus: When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away.

[Scene, the fisherman pulls in the net, then sits down to sort the fish.

Jesus: This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [pause, turning to the disciples] Have you understood these things?

Disciples: Yes.

The End