Reading the Parables

Part 1

Circle the passage that has been assigned to you:

* Mark 4:1–9 (Parable of the Sower)
* Mark 4:26–29 (Parable of the Seed)
* Matthew 13:24–30 (Parable of the Weeds and the Wheat)
* Matthew 13:44 (Parable of the Buried Treasure)
* Matthew 13:45–46 (Parable of the Pearl of Great Price)
* Luke 10:29–37 (Parable of the Good Samaritan)

Work with the members of your small group to answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper:

**1.** To whom might this parable have been directed?

**2.** What analogy does Jesus make in the parable? In other words, what is he comparing?

**3.** What images or experiences does Jesus draw upon in the parable?

**4.** What is unusual or unexpected in this parable?

**5.** What is Jesus trying to communicate about the Kingdom of God through this parable?

Part 2

Wait for your teacher’s instructions before continuing. Then answer the following questions with the members of your small group:

**1.** What images or experiences are drawn upon in the parable acted out?

**2.** What is unusual or unexpected in this parable?

**3.** What does this parable teach us or convey about the Kingdom of God?