

Jesus Teaches

Chapter 13 Summary

Chapter Learning Objectives

- The participants will examine Jesus' private and public life and how each can teach us how to live as members of God's Kingdom.
- The participants will explore Jesus' parables and the lessons Jesus teaches through them.

Content Summary

1. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came in person to reclaim God's Kingdom and break the devil's power.
2. The Kingdom of God is not a specific place, but starts in our hearts. It is made real when we live God's rule of love and goodness.
3. Jesus not only tells us but also shows us how to live as a seed of the Kingdom.
4. All of Jesus' life teaches us—both his hidden life and his public life.
5. The hidden life of Jesus teaches us that an ordinary life, lived well with God and others, has great worth.
6. The events of Jesus' life teach us how to live—to be humble, to accept the suffering that comes to us, to respect legitimate authority, to do honest work.
7. During his public life, Jesus both talks about the Kingdom and begins to bring it about. He gathers followers and prepares them for his death and Resurrection.
8. Jesus teaches that all who have the faith and humility to accept his words are welcome in the Kingdom of God.
9. Jesus teaches through parables—stories that help his listeners make comparisons between their lives and the events told in the story.
10. In the Transfiguration, Jesus gives three Apostles (Peter, James, and John) a special view of the Kingdom of God. Jesus' appearance was transformed, and the Father's voice was heard, announcing his approval of his Son.
11. In his teaching, Jesus affirmed the Law of Moses, yet also made clear the bigger picture of living the Law in the Kingdom of God with a purer love.
12. Jesus also rejected some of the ways that Jewish teachers explained the Law. Jesus focused on the importance of love above man-made rules. Through his death and Resurrection, he showed the depths of his love, and then sent the Holy Spirit to us so that we too might live freely as God's children in his Kingdom.

(All summary points are taken from *The Catholic Connections Handbook for Middle Schoolers, Second Edition*. Copyright © 2014 by Saint Mary's Press. All rights reserved.)

