



Introduction: What is a _____?

The Greek word parable means:

- *para* = _____
- *ballō* = to _____, to place

So literally, it means **“to place _____.”**

Setting the Scene

Before we get into the parable, let's remember the setting. Jesus is still in the _____. The chief priests and elders have just challenged His authority (Matthew 21:23). Jesus, in His wisdom, turned the tables and asked *them* about John the Baptist.

“But what do you think?” (Matthew 21:28).

That question is important. Jesus is not just telling a story; He is inviting these _____ to look into the mirror of God's Word and examine their own hearts.

And the parable He tells _____ through surface religion and shows what truly matters to God: obedient hearts, not hollow words.

1 John 3:18 - *"Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."*

Now, just before we get into the parable you might want to write down this information. This will be a key to understanding this parable:

- The Vineyard owner is _____ .
- The Vineyard is _____ .
- The First Son are _____
- The Second Son are _____ Leaders.

1. **The Father and the _____ Son – Matthew 21:28-29**

"A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went."

Notice a few things here:

- The father says, "Son" — in Greek, **τέκνον (teknon)**, a term of _____. He's not talking to a servant; he's speaking to his beloved child.
- The son's response: *"I will not."* In Greek, **οὐ θέλω (ou thelō)** — *"I don't _____ to."*

But the story doesn't end there. The son later "_____ his mind."

Dr. Tony Evans writes, “_____” that say, “Amen” mean nothing without hands and feet backing them up

Have you ever said “_____” to God, only to later obey?

This son reminds us that _____ **is possible**. Even if we start wrong, we can finish right.

2. The Actions of the _____ Son – Matthew 21:30

“And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go.”

This son says all the right things. Notice:

- He is _____ — “Sir.”
- He is _____ — quick to say “yes.”
- But in the end, he _____ **not go**.

Examples Today

- Saying, “I’ll _____ for you,” but never actually praying (James 2:15–16).
- _____ loudly in worship, but living in disobedience during the week (Isaiah 29:13).
- _____ with enthusiasm, but never following through.

Warren Wiersbe - *“The second son represents the religious crowd that talks much but does little, who says they believe but never truly obey.”*

Which are we more like — the son who said “_____” but repented, or the one who said “yes” but never followed through?

God desires **integrity between _____ and life.**

3. The Actions of the _____ Collectors and _____ – Matthew 21:31-32

“Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.’

The religious leaders get the _____ right: the first son did the father’s will. But then Jesus delivers the shocking application.

_____ collectors and _____ — the very people despised by society — are entering God’s kingdom ahead of the religious elite.

Why?

Spurgeon said - *“The harlot’s tears are more acceptable than the Pharisee’s pride.”*

Self- _____ is still a barrier today.

The _____ is not about reputation, but repentance.

Conclusion: What Does This _____ Mean for Us?

Jesus’ parable gives us three takeaways:

- 1. God is looking for _____, not just talkers.** (James 1:22)
- 2. It’s not how you _____; it’s how you finish.** (Ecclesiastes 7:8)
- 3. _____ opens the door to the Kingdom.** (Luke 18:14)