

# Students Sermon Guide - July 11, 2021

Matthew 21:33-46 | The Parable of the Tenants | Ross Lester

## Reflect (Before the Sermon)

What are some ways in our world today that people act as though their actions or opinions are more important than those of God? What are a few ways you've ever done that?

## Read (Before the Sermon)

In the passage, **CIRCLE** everything the "owner" or "master" in the parable says or does, and **UNDERLINE** everything the "tenants" say or do.

### Matthew 21:33-43

**33** "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. **34** When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. **35** And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. **36** Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. **37** Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' **38** But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' **39** And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. **40** When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" **41** They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." **42** Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? **43** Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. **44** And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." **45** When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. **46** And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.



## Write (During the Sermon)

- The event in these verses happen in the final \_\_\_\_\_ before Jesus' death
- By telling this parable Jesus claims to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of the vineyard, and claims that the Pharisees are just the \_\_\_\_\_

Although Jesus was addressing the Pharisees, there are some principles that also apply to us today:

1. God is generous in the \_\_\_\_\_ of his people
2. God is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with his people
3. Man sins in an insane attempt to thwart God's \_\_\_\_\_
4. In response to man's \_\_\_\_\_, God sends his \_\_\_\_\_
5. God has chosen a \_\_\_\_\_ for us to build on

*Did you miss some blanks or need some help? Click [HERE](#) to see what they are.*

## Respond (After the Sermon)

- There are two big ways we can reject the work of Jesus on our behalf and, like the Pharisees in these verses, think of ourselves as ultimately being in charge. Read each description below and put a star next to the one you find yourself most often drawn towards:

#1 - We work hard to do all the right things, and believe we can earn the love, favor, or approval of God. In this way we reject Jesus by believing that we can be good enough without him.

#2 - We don't obey Jesus at all, and make ourselves the final authority for what is right, wrong, or true. In this way we reject Jesus by believing that God doesn't care about our actions.

Why do you think you are drawn more to the one you choose? Spend some time thanking Jesus that his actions alone are enough to make you righteous and save you, and that Jesus alone can be trusted to determine what is true and good.