

# Principles of Growth

## Matthew 13:24-43

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### Matthew 13 – 8 parables of Jesus

- I. Teaching about the nature of the kingdom
  - a. Growth
  - b. Treasure (Value)
- II. Teaching about the responses to the kingdom
- III. Why parables?

#### **Matthew 13:34 ESV**

**34** All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable.

### Principle #1: Don't be fooled by the presence of evil

- Judgment is a frightening but helpful doctrine:
- Psalm 73

### Principle #2: Don't be fooled by small beginnings

# Principle #3: Don't be fooled by the hidden nature of the kingdom

## So how do you know?

1. The truth test
2. The love test
3. The obedience test

## The surprise

1. We need to be careful to not think we always know what the symbols represent
2. Not all symbols have a meaning
3. Look for the surprise

## Conclusion:

### Matthew 13:34-35 ESV

**34** All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable.

**35** This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world."

### Psalms 78:2-4 ESV

**2** I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

**3** things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.

**4** We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

### Matthew 13:43 ESV

**43** Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.