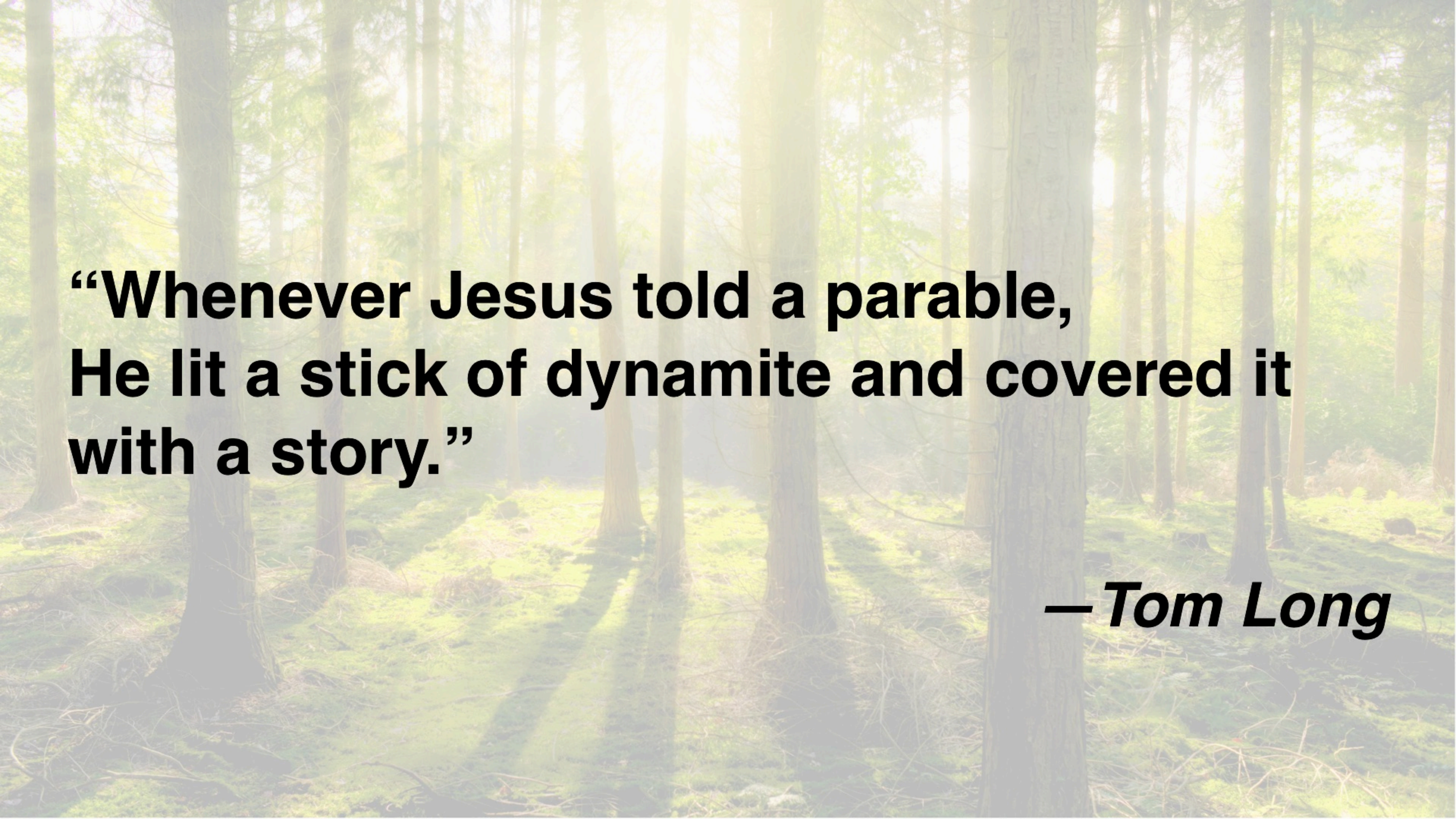
A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a ground covered in moss and fallen branches. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

The word, “Parable” is used 48 times in the Gospels and Jesus told 40 parables.

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a path leading through them. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow. The ground is covered in green moss and fallen leaves.

**“Whenever Jesus told a parable,
He lit a stick of dynamite and covered it
with a story.”**

—Tom Long

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a mossy ground. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the image.

Four Questions on Parables

I. What is a parable? — vv.3, 9



“Parables are designed to capture the listener and make him a participant...”

—*D.A. Carson*

“Parables are an imaginative challenge rather than a simple proposition.”

—*R.T. France*

“At its simplest, the parable is a metaphor or simile drawn from nature or common life, arresting the hearer by its vividness or strangeness, and leaving the mind in sufficient doubt to its precise application to tease the mind into active thought.”

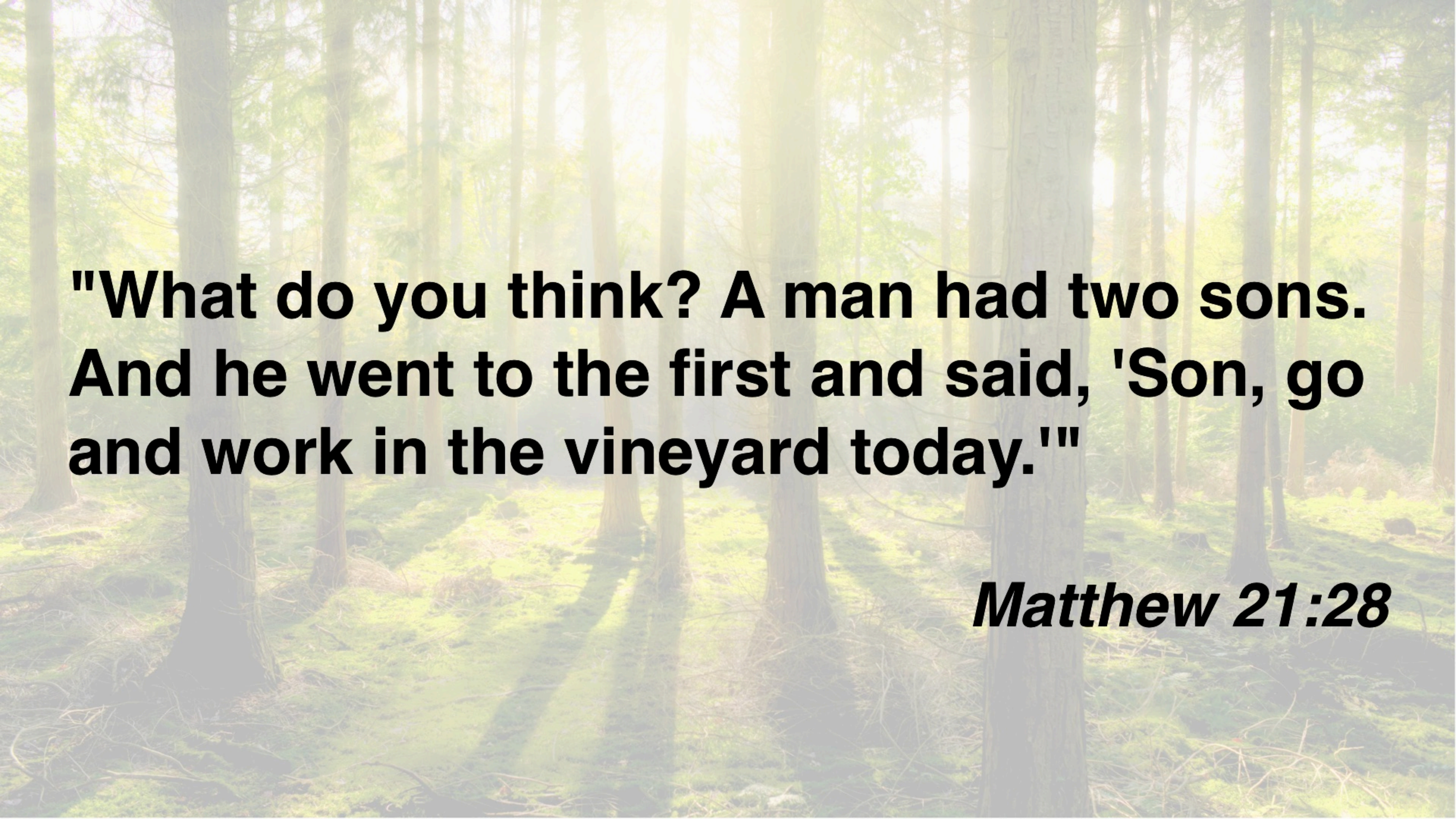
—C.H. Dodd
Parables of the Kingdom

A sunlit forest with tall, thin trees and a mossy ground. The sunlight filters through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow. The ground is covered in green moss and some dry leaves.

Four Questions on Parables

I. What is a parable? — vv.3, 9

a. A parable is a call to consider

A sunlit forest with tall, thin trees and a mossy ground. The sunlight filters through the canopy, creating a warm, golden glow. The text is overlaid on the image.

"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'"

Matthew 21:28

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a ground covered in moss and fallen branches. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Four Questions on Parables

II. What do parables call us to consider?

— vv.18-19

A sunlit forest with tall, thin trees and a mossy ground. The sunlight filters through the canopy, creating a warm, golden glow. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Four Questions on Parables

II. What do parables call us to consider?

— vv.18-19

**a. Parables call us to consider the
Kingdom**

Plot lines of Kingdom Stories

- **Extravagance— 13:47**
- **Reversal— 13:31-32**
- **A disruptive call to action— 13:44**
- **Delay— 13:30**

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a ground covered in moss and fallen branches. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Four Questions on Parables
III. Why parables? — vv.10-17



Four Questions on Parables


III. Why parables? — vv.10-17

a. Parables call us to consider the Kingdom—its extravagance, reversal and disruptive action

A sunlit forest with tall, thin trees and a path leading through them. The ground is covered in green moss and fallen leaves. The sunlight filters through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow.

Four Questions on Parables

IV. Will you consider The Parable of the Sower? — vv.1-10, 18-23

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a path leading through them. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a warm, golden glow. The ground is covered in green moss and fallen leaves.

Considering The Parable of the Sower

- Extravagance—The Sower**

A sunlit forest with tall, thin trees and a mossy ground. The sunlight filters through the canopy, creating a warm, golden glow. The trees are mostly evergreens, and the ground is covered in a thick layer of green moss and fallen branches.

Considering The Parable of the Sower

- **Extravagance—The Sower**

- **Are you an extravagant sower?**

Considering The Parable of the Sower

- **Extravagance—The Sower**
 - **Are you an extravagant sower?**
- **Reversal—the harvest**

“A harvest of four to tenfold was considered normal, with a harvest of fifteen times what was sown being exceptionally good. On this understanding, Jesus’ parable, which is realistic until the final scene, portrays a fantastically surprising harvest.”

—M. Eugene Boring

Considering The Parable of the Sower

- **Extravagance—The Sower**
 - **Are you an extravagant sower?**
- **Reversal—the harvest**
 - **Has Jesus reversed your value system?**

Considering The Parable of the Sower

- **Extravagance—The Sower**
 - **Are you an extravagant sower?**
- **Reversal—the harvest**
 - **Has Jesus reversed your value system?**
- **A disruptive call to action—tilling the soil**

Considering The Parable of the Sower

- **Extravagance—The Sower**
 - **Are you an extravagant sower?**
- **Reversal—the harvest**
 - **Has Jesus reversed your value system?**
- **A disruptive call to action—tilling the soil**
 - **How do I need to till my soil?**

Four Questions on Parables

I. What is a parable?

II. What do parables call us to consider?

III. Why parables?

IV. Will you consider The Parable of the Sower?