

## I. REVIEW/INTRO

- A. The story tellers
- B. The parable of the evil vinedressers
  - A parable is a truth that's hidden in a story
- C. No hidden message in this parable

**Luke 20:19 (NLT) The teachers of religious law and the leading priests wanted to arrest Jesus immediately because they realized he was telling the story against them—they were the wicked farmers. But they were afraid of the people's reaction.**

- D. What tipped off the priests?
  - Isaiah 5 – God expected fruit from the vineyard but instead it brought forth bad fruit

**Isaiah 5:5 (NLT) Now let me tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will tear down its hedges and let it be destroyed. I will break down its walls and let the animals trample it.**

## II. BACKSTORY

- A. This story is told just a few days before His crucifixion (prepares us for Easter)
- B. Why this parable?

**Luke 19:11-14 (NLT) The crowd was listening to everything Jesus said. And because he was nearing Jerusalem, he told them a story to correct the impression that the Kingdom of God would begin right away. He said, "A nobleman was called away to a distant empire to be crowned king and then return. Before he left, he called together ten of his servants and divided among them ten pounds of silver, saying, 'Invest this for me while I am gone.' But his people hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We do not want him to be our king.'**

**Luke 19:24-26 (NLT) "Then, turning to the others standing nearby, the king ordered, 'Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one who has ten pounds.' "But, master,' they said, 'he already has ten pounds!' (bible for, it's not fair!) "Yes,' the king replied, 'and to those who use well what they are given, even more will be given. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.**

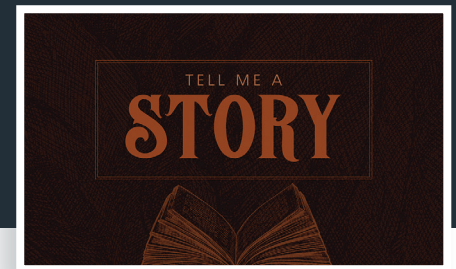
- Triumphal entry; Palm Sunday
- Jesus weeps over the city of Jerusalem and prophesizes it's destruction

**Luke 19:44 (NLT) They will crush you into the ground, and your children with you. Your enemies will not leave a single stone in place, because you did not recognize it when God visited you**

- Jesus cleanses the temple

**Luke 19:47 (NLT) After that, he taught daily in the Temple, but the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the other leaders of the people began planning how to kill him.**

- Luke 20 Jesus authority is questioned



### III. TELL ME A STORY

#### A. A similar story

**Luke 20:9 (NLT)** Now Jesus turned to the people again and told them this story: “A man planted a vineyard, leased it to tenant farmers, and moved to another country to live for several years.

#### B. What would you do?

**Luke 20:13a (NLT)** “‘What will I do?’ the owner asked himself...

- The point is – it violates our sense of justice, it’s not right!

**Luke 20:13 (NLT)** “‘What will I do?’ the owner asked himself... ‘I know! I’ll send my cherished son. Surely they will respect him.’

**Luke 20:15-16 (NLT)** So they dragged him out of the vineyard and murdered him. “What do you suppose the owner of the vineyard will do to them?” Jesus asked. “I’ll tell you—he will come and kill those farmers and lease the vineyard to others.” “How terrible that such a thing should ever happen,” his listeners protested.

#### C. A plot twist

**Luke 20:17-18 (NLT)** Jesus looked at them and said, “Then what does this Scripture mean? ‘The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.’ Everyone who stumbles over that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone it falls on.”

**Psalms 118:22-24 (NLT)** The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is wonderful to see. This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.

### IV. JESUS OUR CORNERSTONE

#### A. Jesus the cornerstone

- The cornerstone is the most important part of a building. It’s the alignment stone

**Acts 3:12-16 (NLT)** Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. “People of Israel,” he said, “what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness? For it is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God of all our ancestors—who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. This is the same Jesus whom you handed over and rejected before Pilate, despite Pilate’s decision to release him. You rejected this holy, righteous one and instead demanded the release of a murderer. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact! “Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus’ name has healed him before your very eyes.

**Acts 4:8-12 (NLT)** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers and elders of our people, are we being questioned today because we’ve done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says, ‘The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.’ There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.”