

*Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way*

October 8, 2017

Eighteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46



The Parable of the Tenants. *Objects: None.*

Did you know that Jesus liked to tell stories? The stories that Jesus told were called parables and he used them to teach his followers about good behavior and bad behavior.

Our Bible lesson today one of Jesus' parables. It is a story about a man who owned some land. He planted some grapes on the land and then rented it to some other farmers who were to work in the vineyard and take care of it for him. Part of the agreement he had with these farmers was that they would give him a share of the crops.

When it came time to harvest the grapes, the landowner sent his servants to collect his share of the harvest. The farmers who had leased the land beat the servants and even killed one of them. They refused to give the landowner what was owed to him. This happened again when the landowner sent more servants. Finally, he sent his own son, thinking, "Surely they will respect my son."

But when they saw the son coming, they said, "This is the landowner's son, let's kill him and take his inheritance."

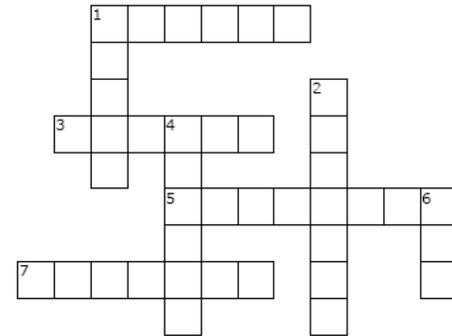
In this story that Jesus told, the landowner represents God. God sent men such as Noah, Moses, David, the prophet Isaiah, and others to tell people of his love for them and to call them to turn away from their wicked ways, but many would not listen. Finally, he sent His own Son, Jesus, and they crucified him. God gave them a chance, a second chance—and a third chance to do what is right. God also gives us lots of chances to do what is right.

Dear Father, we thank you for sending us Jesus, your only Son. Help us to do what is right. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Jesus says, I chose you and appointed to go and bear fruit that will last. Alleluia. (John 15:16)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. A person who works with plants and flowers
- 3. To put to death
- 5. People employed to perform services for another person
- 7. The time or season for gathering crops

DOWN

- 1. The part of a vine or tree which is eaten
- 2. A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson
- 4. To hear or pay attention to something
- 6. A parent's male child

PARABLE	LISTEN	KILLED	HARVEST
SERVANTS	SON	FRUIT	FARMER

DO WHAT IS RIGHT FRAMING: Provide supplies for the child to make a framed picture with brightly colored words to say, DO WHAT IS RIGHT. The child may choose to make purple finger prints all around the frame to represent grapes and to remind them of today's lesson of the vineyard. Use a small rope stapled to the frame for hanging their art work.



THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS



"But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will
Reverence my son. But when the husband men saw the son, they said among
Themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance"
Matthew 21:37-38