

# Message Notes

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## **Fakers, Followers & Fools**

Matthew 13:47-58

Parables of the Kingdom, Part 6

July 31, 2005

**Lord Jesus Christ,**

*I need you.*

*I see, hear and understand now that I am more sinful than I ever before believed, but more loved by you than I ever dared hope.*

*I desperately need the salvation and new life that you accomplished through your perfect life and death on the cross.*

*I understand that you lived the life that I should be living and you died the death that I deserve. Today, I repent and I believe.*

*I turn away from my sin and my self-effort,*

*and I place my complete trust in your finished work on the cross.*

*I receive you as my Sovereign Lord and my Savior from sin.*

*Save me and change me. Amen.*

**grace**  
San Luis Obispo

# Message Outline

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## **Fakers, Followers & Fools**

Matthew 13:47-58

Parables of the Kingdom, Part 6

July 31, 2005

### **I. FAKERS (Matt. 13:47-50)**

- A. Fakers are mixed-in and caught up in the net of the kingdom.
- B. Fakers look like following fish on the outside.
- C. Fakers will be separated out in the end, but not now and not by us.

### **II. FOLLOWERS (Matt. 13:51-52)**

- A. Followers get righteous by faith in Christ. (not by self and not by the law)
- B. Followers become treasure hunters.
- C. Followers become treasure-displayers.

### **III. FOOLS (Matt. 13:53-58)**

- A. Fools hear Jesus' prophetic wisdom, but will not receive Him.
- B. Fools see Jesus' miraculous power, but will not believe Him.
- C. Fools stumble over His humanity, instead of bowing before His deity.

## ***Growth Group Understanding Questions***

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### ***Fakers, Followers & Fools***

*Matthew 13:47-58*

*Parables of the Kingdom, Part 6*

*July 31, 2005*

1. Read Matthew 13:47-58 again. Take time to consider these three vignettes on their own accord, independent from the others. What does each paragraph say at face value? What are the independent things that Matthew and Jesus are telling us about the kingdom?
2. The “Parable of the Dragnet” in 13:47-50 is quite similar to another Matthew 13 parable. Which one? What is the similar truth taught in each? What other elements do they share?
3. Matthew 13:52 has been the subject of great scholarly debate because of its vagueness. What do you think Jesus is saying here in light of all that we’ve see in Matthew 13? In other words, how does what Jesus says in 13:52 serve as a wrap up and cap statement to the rest of the parables? (Think hard!)
4. How is 13:53-58 different from these earlier verses leading up to it? (Easy one!) Yet there is a connection to the whole of chapter 13 and these two earlier sections. What are those connections? What did the people of Nazareth hear and see? How did they respond?

## ***Growth Group Application Questions***

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### ***Fakers, Followers & Fools***

*Matthew 13:47-58*

*Parables of the Kingdom, Part 6*

*July 31, 2005*

1. What was the most encouraging and/or challenging thing about our message/text this week? What was new?
2. What do we learn about “FAKERS” in the first vignette? How can you tell a “faker” from a “follower”? What and where is the difference?
3. What do we learn about “FOLLOWERS” in the second vignette? Where do they get “righteous”? How do we know? (Hint: Look at v. 58!) What is the treasure, old and new, that “followers” hunt and display? What are some ways you are hunting and displaying this treasure?
4. What do we learn about “FOOLS” in the third vignette? Why wasn’t Jesus meeting the expectations of the people? What kind of Jesus does our culture expect? How does Jesus not meet our own expectations?
5. Explain the statement, “Fools stumble over Jesus’ humanity, instead of bowing before His deity.” Where do we see that happening in this text? How does that happen today?

### **What’s Up with Growth Groups?**

Growth Groups are one of the best ways to jump into life at Grace! After a great Spring, we are looking forward to Fall Growth Groups, but taking a break this summer. We believe that Growth Groups are the best way to make a large and growing church feel like a small church. So our goal is to have 25 Growth Groups this Fall. Be planning ahead and making room in your schedule for a Growth Group this Fall. For more information see the Growth Groups brochure or contact Pastor Steve.