

Journal Page

Do you feel any hesitation to trust in Jesus? Why or why not? What do you know to be true about Jesus that makes you want to trust in or reject Him?



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why did the tenants kill the owner's son? Who did the son represent?
- How did the religious leaders treat God's Son when He came to earth?
- Do you think it's fair that God judges those who reject Jesus? Why or why not?

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The Wicked Tenants

Matthew 21:33-45

MAIN POINT: GOD WILL JUDGE THOSE WHO REJECT JESUS.

Jesus was teaching in the temple. He told the religious leaders to listen to this story: "A landowner planted a vineyard. He rented the vineyard to some tenants and left the country.

"When it was time for the harvest, the owner sent some servants to get his grapes. But the tenants beat up one servant, killed another, and threw stones at a third.

"So the owner sent more servants to his vineyard, but the tenants attacked them, too.

"Finally, the owner sent his son. He expected the tenants to respect him. But the tenants threw the son out of the vineyard and killed him."

Jesus asked, "When the owner comes back to the vineyard, what do you think he should do to those tenants?"

The religious leaders answered, "They deserve to die!"

Then Jesus said, "So I tell you, God's kingdom will be taken away from you and given to people who do what He commands."

When the religious leaders heard Jesus' story, they knew that Jesus was talking about them.

Christ Connection: Jesus told this story to teach the religious leaders about Himself. God sent His own Son, Jesus, to earth but the religious leaders rejected Him. Jesus is the cornerstone—the most important One of all. Only He can save us from our sin.