Lesson 14
The PARABLES of Jesus
LIFE CHANGING STORIES
We have subtle and dangerous temptation today to take the Jesus of the Bible and twist him into someone we are a little more comfortable with someone who fits our lifestyles, preferences and traditions and

Instead of adjusting our lives to Jesus we want Him to adjust His life to ours.

So what happens is that we start to create a Jesus that isn’t always biblical. We start to customize Him to how we want Him to be.

It is a total life shift – my way for His way.

A century ago a group of people became known as One way missionaries.
Instead of suitcases, they packed their few earthly belongs into coffins.

As they sailed out of the port they waved good bye to everyone they loved and everything they knew.

They knew they would never return home.

A.W. Milne was one of those missionaries.

He set sail for the South Pacific knowing that the headhunters who lived there had murdered every missionary before his.

But his coffin was packed.

For 35 years he had lived among that tribe

And when he died – tribe members wrote this on his tombstone:

> When he came there was no light. 
> When he left there was no darkness.

Luke 14:25 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:

26 “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple.
Mark 7:10–13
10 For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.’

26 “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple.

Matthew 28:19–20
19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
Romans 12:1–2
1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

We won't change and impact those OUT THERE until we are changed IN HERE with the Word of God.

Understand the Bible – what’s it all about?

Help you learn to study the Bible on your own.

Learn how to follow Jesus.

Learn how to affect those around you.
You've never read the Bible before but have the desire to learn principles and strategies that will make your Bible study, fun, exciting and transformational

You've been a Christian for a while but your Bible study has gotten stale, dry and boring and you're looking for something that will revitalize it

So God can change you on the inside so you can have an impact for Jesus to those around you.

1 Thessalonians 3:2 We sent Timothy, who is our brother and God’s fellow worker in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, 3 so that no one would be unsettled by these trials...

No matter what the cost is – it is worth it.