

CHRIST'S PARABLES IN STAINED GLASS



Stained Glass Window 4062:
The Good Samaritan

PARABLES

A *parable* is a story that is created to teach a fundamental lesson or reveal an important truth. During His time with mankind on Earth, **Jesus** frequently used *parables* as a teaching tool. Those who believe in the truth of the **Bible** tend to place special importance on these stories, as they represent messages that were delivered by **Christ Himself**. Since there are so many *parables* in the **Bible** this category of **stained glass** is a broad one. All church **stained glass** illustrating the *parables of Jesus*, however, are able to accomplish precisely the same thing as the stories told by the **Savior Himself**: make the fundamental lessons of Christianity easier to grasp by presenting them in an attractive and accessible manner.

THE STORY OF CHRIST'S PARABLES

The *parables of Jesus* are deceptively simple stories that usually both contain a deeper meaning and reveal a universal truth. **Jesus** shared many *parables* with His followers during His ministry that talked about the **Kingdom of Heaven**, **love**, **forgiveness**, **loss**, and other tenets of the **Christian faith**.

Perhaps one of Christ's best known *parables* is that of the **Prodigal Son**. These words spoken by **Jesus** are found in the **Gospel of Luke** (15 : 11-32). In the story, a man with two sons gives one of them his inheritance. The man leaves the family home and squanders the



Stained Glass Window 5201:
The Sower

THE STORY OF CHRIST'S PARABLES CONTINUED

money, ultimately deciding to return home once he is completely destitute. He does not know how his father will react to his absence, and is prepared to **beg for forgiveness**. Somewhat surprisingly, the father welcomes his son with open arms. Many interpret this story as an indication of how God treats those who decide to return to the faith after they have strayed. Other parables of Christ are the **Parable of the Mustard Seed**, the **Parable of the Good Samaritan**, and the **Parable of the Rich Fool**. For those looking for art that will not merely be an aesthetically pleasing addition to a place of worship but also an instructional tool, **stained glass window art depicting Christ's parables** is a fitting choice.

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