**Next Steps:** Jesus told many parables in his last week of ministry before He died on the cross. Parables are simple stories used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson. Often times there is an element of "surprise" that catches people off guard.

Read Matthew 21:1-17; 23-27. What is the context that leads up to these parables? Who are the main people interacting with Jesus?

Read each of the parables listed below and:

- -Identify the main characters in the parables
- -Who do these characters represent?
- -What is the "twist" or "surprise" in each of the stories?
- -What lesson do you need to learn from these parables?

The Parable of the Two Sons in Matthew 21:28-32

What was John the Baptist's message? (Matthew 3:1-17 & John 1:29-34)

The Parable of the Tenants in Matthew 21:33-46

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet in Matthew 22:1-14

**Next Week:** We all have a lot of questions we would like to ask Jesus. Most of the times our questions are honest. In Matthew 22:15-46, there are three groups of people that wanted Jesus to answer their questions. These questions are not coming from a good place. We can learn a lot from Jesus as He answers them with a sincere heart.