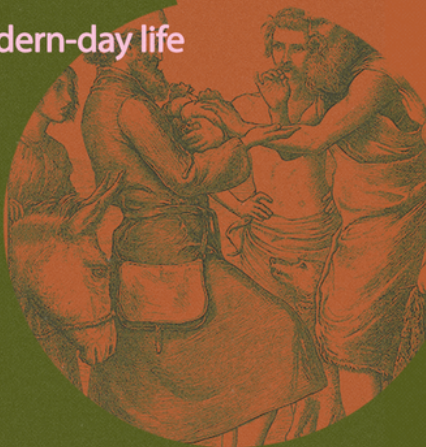


# STORY TIME

connecting parables in the bible to modern-day life

week five



## Parable of the Net

# Matthew 13:47-50

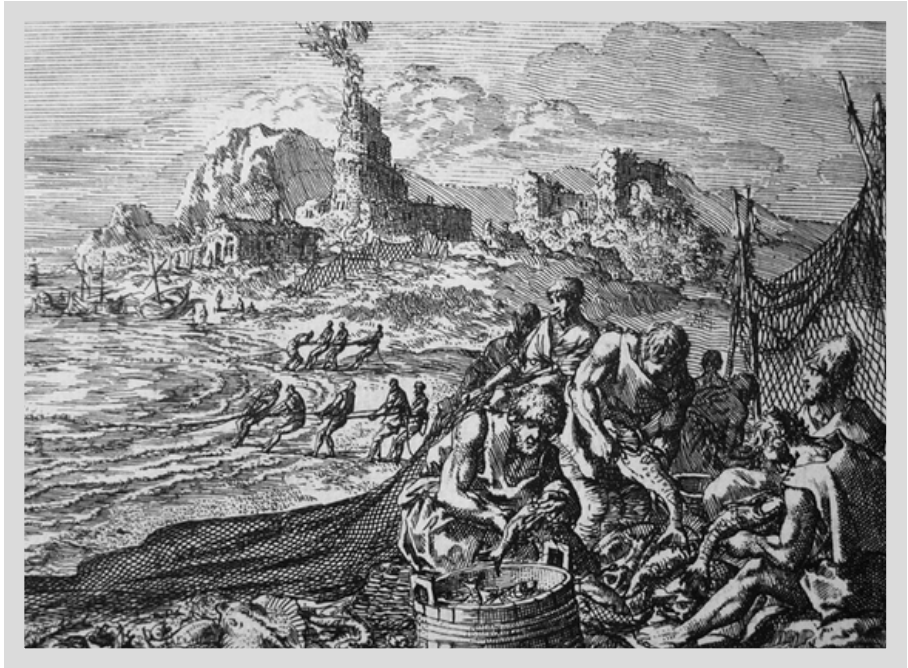
*"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a fishing net that was thrown into the water and caught fish of every kind. When the net was full, they dragged it up onto the shore, sat down, and sorted the good fish into crates, but threw the bad ones away."*

*Matthew 13:47-48, NLT*

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

## CHANGE A LIFE

Take a minute to invite someone to Christmas at Echo:  
**[echo.church/christmas](https://echo.church/christmas)**



## GO DEEPER THIS WEEK

### MEDITATE

Speak to God about this image above. What do you notice?

### STUDY

Read Matthew 6:19-34 three times. Jot down any tensions you felt when you read it. What might Jesus be trying to say to you?

### READ

Imagine the God of Heaven, by John Burke

### LISTEN

Watch or listen to Carey Nieuhof's podcast with John Burke about what near-death experiences reveal about heaven, hell, and Jesus. ....→



## KEY STEPS TO GET ENGAGED

Over the next several weeks, as we prepare for the end of the year, you're invited to be a part of the story of what God is doing through His church. Take a look over the opportunities below to get involved and make a difference this season:

### MAKE CHRISTMAS MERRY AT ECHO

Be a part of making some Christmas magic this year and awaken the wonder of what Christmas really means. There's many ways for you to serve and make a difference at one of our Christmas services this year. See more details and sign up at [echo.church/merry](https://echo.church/merry)

### INVITE A FRIEND TO CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Bring a friend with you to one of our many Christmas services at Echo. We have an amazing experience planned for the whole family, fun surprises, gifts, and a whole lot more. See more details at [echo.church/christmas](https://echo.church/christmas)

### BUY A HAMMOCK, MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Artisan Project seeks to equip women in Brazil with creative skills that help them financially support their families. You can purchase hammocks (they make great Christmas gifts!) made by these women to make a difference in their lives and community! More details at [echo.church/global](https://echo.church/global)

### LEAD A SPRING 2024 ECHO GROUP

Be a part of creating life-giving community by leading or hosting an Echo Group in spring of 2024. See more details and information at [echo.church/host](https://echo.church/host)

### END-OF-YEAR GIVING

Generosity matters. Your giving helps make a difference not just in our community but with many of our local and global partnerships. Finish your year strong, and make the most of your tax-deductible gift by the end of the year at [echo.church/give](https://echo.church/give)