

The Story: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and God's People

Chapter 24: No Ordinary Man

As you read, take note of the cast of characters. Write a short descriptive to help you remember. Who are the main characters?

Write any notes or questions you have.

Review the questions on page 484 in your book to prepare for discussion in class.

What is a parable? Why might Jesus have used parables as a way to teach people?

What can be learned from Jesus' parables that you can use in your own life?

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus announces the "constitution" of his kingdom. What does that statement mean? If you had heard this sermon, what do you think you would have done? Would you have followed him?

What was so troubling about Jesus' teaching for the religious leaders?

Jesus explained that he is the "bread of life"—the source of sustenance and satisfaction. What can you do to gain a deeper satisfaction in your relationship with Jesus?

What are some of the dangers in trying to make the message of Jesus easier for people to understand? On the other hand, how can we avoid making it so complicated?