

The Parable of the Tenant Farmers



Can you fit twenty of these grapes in the palm of your hand?
Let's try it!
Oh... I've just dropped them....I'll try again... whoops... on the floor again.... Well, would you give me another chance?



Maybe if I tried with raisins...
It worked! It was much easier to hold those grapes when they were raisins. Thank you for giving me a second chance.

Well, today's story is about a vineyard (a place where grapes grow), and second chances.

There was a man who owned a vineyard. The man hired some Tenants to take care of his land and grape vines. However, when the payment was due, and the man sent someone to collect it, the Tenants decided not to listen. Instead, they hurt the messenger. Another messenger they threw rocks at, and another one they even killed! They certainly had no respect for the land owner. You would think he would become angry or given up on them, but no, he gave the Tenants yet another chance and decided he would send his son to collect the rent. Surely the workers would listen to his son, right?

Nope! Instead, they thought maybe they could have the land for good if they got rid of that guy. So they killed him, too! They killed the son to try to keep the land. The owner took the vineyard away from those nasty men, and instead found someone who would take good care of it.

Why would Jesus tell a story like this? Well, parables always have a lesson. In this one, Jesus was telling the church rulers and teachers that they were missing something, or someONE. God is patient, and gives us a lot of second chances. God tried to help His people.

He sent prophets to warn them, but a lot of people ignored and hurt the prophets. Finally, God sent His son, and the church leaders still didn't listen. They missed the most important message in the history of the World.

We can be glad that God gives us second chances and that we are part of his Church.

Dear God,
Thank you for sending your son Jesus. Thank you for giving us second chances
Even when we keep making mistakes. Help us to show love to one another
Thank you for your love. We love you, God!
In Jesus name, Amen!