

**Life Group Notes**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Speaker:** Sean Green

**Title:** Parable of the Tenants

**Passage:** Luke: 20: 9-19

**The Honourable Owner:**

For those standing around listening, this parable was easy to understand. The vineyard stands for God's people, the nation of Israel. The tenant farmers are both the kings and spiritual leaders of Israel whom God has entrusted His people to. The sent servants are God's prophets who are disregarded, shamed and killed by Israel's leaders. The vineyard, the place where God's reign is received. will be given to others who will honour the Owner

**TARDIS Parable.** Its like Dr Who's TARDIS: when you get inside it, it keeps getting bigger on the inside:

Us: *Privilege:* The tenants were given the privilege of stewarding what was His. *Sin:* The tenant's sin was that they refused to give what was due to the owner. *Responsibility:* A day of recking is coming, they were called to account.

God: *God's Love:* How else can you explain the owner sending so many servants (Prophets). *God's Patience:* The owner did not strike at the first sign of rebellion. *God's Judgment:* The tenants thought they could get away with it but God has not abdicated.

Jesus: *His Resolve:* He knew what happened to the son in the story, yet didn't turn back. *His Confidence.* He never doubted God's ultimate triumph. *His Identity.* Jesus deliberately removed himself from the succession of the prophets, they were servants, He is the Son.

**Christmas is behind us,** God the vineyard owner, sent his beloved son, alone into the vineyard, where previously his servants had been beaten, insulted, injured and thrown out.

**And Easter is ahead of us.** God the vineyard owner, in an 'offer of sublime love' sent his son, in total vulnerability, to win his people back. His love will result in His Son's death.

*'Luke understood a point that has only recently been rediscovered in academic theology, namely truth is basically a story, not a concept. In the OT, and Gospels, God's interaction with people is not conveyed by concepts but through stories. In reading these stories, our concern must be to see how it advances our faith and good works one little step' – Paul John Isaak*

**Questions:**

1. What stood out for you from anything that Sean said on Sunday?
2. Anything new that you have learnt about the Father, the Son, the Spirit?
3. What is comforting for you in this parable? What is uncomfortable?
4. What are you going to do differently?
5. What did you make of Isaak's quote?