

Name:

Date:

Period:

What Was Jesus Saying?

For this assignment, imagine that you have been asked to come to the meeting of a local Christian youth group and to speak briefly to its members on the topic of one of Jesus' teachings called the "Parable of the Yeast" (Mt 13:33). Keeping in mind that parables are extended metaphors, meaning that they compare something familiar with something abstract or unfamiliar, you are to explain what each element of the parable symbolizes, offer an interpretation of the parable, and explain how the Parable of the Yeast is meaningful to Christians today.

The Parable of the Yeast:

He spoke to them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened."

Explain the following symbolic elements of the parable:

1. "yeast"
2. "woman"
3. "three measures of wheat flour"
4. the "whole batch"
5. the leavening process
6. What is Jesus saying about the "kingdom of heaven" through this parable?
7. How do you think the people who heard him responded to what he said, and why do you think they responded that way?
8. How is this parable meaningful or relevant to Christians today?