**FIEC Leaders Conference 2024**

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**Kingdom Shepherds**

1. **Where can we learn to be under-shepherd who grow the kingdom of God?**
* Specific instruction in God’s word (eg Pastoral Epistles)
* Examples from God’s word (eg Jesus/Paul)
* Examples of godly leaders
* Secular management/leadership resources (ie common grace)
1. **What is the purpose of Jesus’ parables?**
* Matthew 13v1-52
* To reveal the secrets of the kingdom to disciples
* Subvert false expectations/interpretations
* Who is the audience? – Crowd; Religious Leaders; Disciples
* Who understands the message of the parables?
* Parables after the resurrection
1. **What do the parables teach about the kingdom?**
* HOW the kingdom comes
* WHEN the kingdom comes
* WHO enters the kingdom
* WHAT disciples are to do as they wait for the kingdom
* Worked example – Luke 18v9-14
1. **Blocks of teaching in parables**
* Early ministry – Mark 4 & Matthew 13
* Mid ministry – Luke
* Beginning final week – Matthew 21v28-22v14
* End final week - Matthew 24v36-25v46
1. **Parable of the Sower – Matthew 13v1-9 & 18-23**
* What is the purpose of the parable?
* What does the parable teach about the kingdom?
* How does the parable explain Jesus’ ministry?
* Ow does the parable provide a paradigm for kingdom shepherds?
1. **Parables of Lost Sheep, Coin & Son – Luke 15v11-32**
* What is the purpose of these parables?
* What do the parables teach about the kingdom?
* How do these parables explain Jesus’ ministry?
* How do the parables provide a paradigm for kingdom shepherds?