



# ***Life-Changing- Lessons***



***Welcome to Long Beach Alliance Church  
Sunday, July 4, 2021***

SO VERY  
thankful  
INCREDIBLY  
grateful  
UNBELIEVABLY  
blessed.

Dee Ryan would like to thank everyone for their prayers. She loves the cards and flowers that were sent to her and is thankful for the extended family of God who has been there for her in prayer and encouragement.

PIVOT COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

presents

MOVIE & BOARD GAME NIGHT

July 17. 7:30PM @ the Taggarts'

\*Contact: taggartmatthew@gmail.com

BAPTISM

Interested?

Contact

[office@lbac.org](mailto:office@lbac.org)

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

in your

JOURNEY

August 15

10:30AM

Celebration

## LBAC Year-to-Date Financial Report

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget %</u>
Weekly:	\$12,803.78	\$14,486.94	113.1%
Month-to-Date:	\$51,215.12	\$46,524.95	90.8%
Year-to-Date:	\$550,562.54	\$537,082.09	97.6%
Disbursed YTD:	\$576,351.66	GF Balance: \$1,425.04	

# LIFE-CHANGING LESSONS FROM SHORT, STRIKING STORIES

Matthew 13:31-32 The Mustard Seed

Matthew 13:44 The Treasure Hidden in a Field

Matthew 13:33 The Leaven Hidden in the Meal

Matthew 13:45-46 The Pearl of Great Price

Matthew 13:47-50 The Dragnet

*Long Beach Alliance Church • July 4, 2021 • Jack Littlefield*

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## I. God's Kingdom principles are not immediately perceived even by Jesus' disciples

Matthew 13:1-3, 10-18; also 13:24-30 and 36; also 13:47-48 and 49-50; also 13:51

## II. God's Kingdom puts you in the role of both sower and fisher

- A. You are a sower of the seed, contrast Mark 4:14; Luke 8:11 with Matthew 13:37
- B. You are a fisher of souls, Matthew 13:47-48; compare Matthew 4:18-22, especially verse 19; Luke 5:1-11, esp. verse 10; John 21:1-17 (connect 21:1-8 with 15-17)
- C. Conclusion: Follow Jesus' example as Master Sower and Master Fisher, BONUS OUTLINES #3 and #4
- D. Conclusion: Resist the temptation to see any non-Christian person or struggling believer as anything other than someone God loves and Jesus died for and you have been commissioned to reach

## III. With God's Kingdom, small beginnings lead to phenomenal results

Matthew 13:31-32 and 13:33; Luke 8:11; Proverbs 11:30; Isaiah 55:11; Hebrews 4:12; Acts 1:8; BONUS OUTLINES #3 and #4

## IV. God's Kingdom has arrived and God demands your response

- A. He demands a total change, Matthew 13:44; Luke 14:33; 9:23-24; Phil 3:7-10
- B. He demands a change in your values, Matthew 13:44; 6:33; 2 Peter 1:5-11; Philippians 4:8
- C. He demands a change in your attitude toward possessions, Matthew 13:44; 16:26
- D. He demands a change in your future plans, Matthew 13:44; 16:25
- E. God's Kingdom is especially found by those who passionately seek it, Matthew 13:45-46; 6:33; 7:7-8; Hebrews 11:6; Jeremiah 29:13; Psalm 34:4, 10

## V. God's Kingdom is worth more than anything you give up for it!

Matthew 13:44; also 13:45-46; Psalm 19:10; Proverbs 3:13-18; 8:10-11, 18-19; Mark 10:29-30

## VI. You will find God's Kingdom in the person of Jesus Christ

He proclaims the arrival of the Kingdom, Matthew 4:17

He teaches the morality of the Kingdom, Matthew 5-7

He explains the nature of the Kingdom, Matthew 13:1-52 (the parables of the Kingdom)

He is the focal point of the Kingdom, the King of the Kingdom, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, Luke 17:21; Revelation 17:14; 19:16; 1:5; 1 Timothy 6:13-15; Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 7:13-14; Ephesians 1:20-21

### **BONUS OUTLINE #1: The Kingdom Parables of Matthew 13**

1. The Seed in Four Soils, Matthew 13:1-23
2. The Wheat and the Weeds Growing Together, Then Separated, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
3. The Mustard Seed's Steady and Incredible Growth, Matthew 13:31-32
4. The Leaven Spreading Through the Loaf, Matthew 13:33
5. The Treasure of Extreme Value Hidden in the Field, Matthew 13:44
6. The Pearl of Extreme Value, Matthew 13:45-46
7. The Dragnet and the Separation of Good Fish from Bad, Matthew 13:47-50
8. The Head of the House Who Uses New Things and Old, 13:52

### **BONUS OUTLINE #2: Images of the Believer That Stress Your Role to Reach Out to Others.**

1. You are a sower of seed, Mark 4:14; Luke 8:11; Mark 4:36-39; Matthew 13:31-32; contrast with Matthew 13:37
2. You are a fisher of people, Matthew 4:18-22, especially verse 19; Luke 5:1-11, esp. verse 10; John 21:1-17 (connect 21:1-8 with 15-17)
3. You are "the light of the world," Matthew 5:14-16; Philippians 2:14-16
4. You are a witness of Jesus, Acts 1:8
5. You are an "ambassador for Christ," 2 Corinthians 5:20
6. You are a "letter from Christ, to be known and read by all," 2 Corinthians 3:2-3
7. You are a shepherd seeking the lost sheep, Matthew 18:10-14 and context
8. You are a branch that is to produce fruit, John 15:1-8, 16; see also John 4:36

### **BONUS OUTLINE #3: Seven Easy Ways to Be a Witness: Tell Your Own Story**

1. Talk about how Jesus has brought you out of guilt, despair or distress.
2. Talk about how Jesus has transformed your character.
3. Talk about how Jesus has answered your prayers.
4. Talk about how Jesus has brought you through difficult times.
5. Talk about how Jesus has given you victory over temptation.
6. Talk about how Jesus has given you hope for the future.
7. Talk about how Jesus has given you victory over death or a serious illness.
8. Listen! Intentional, sensitive listening earns you easy opportunities to talk.

### **BONUS OUTLINE #4: Lessons From the Sower Parable on Spreading the Word of God**

1. You are to sow as a deliberate, energetic action, Mark 4:3
2. You are to sow as an individual action, Mark 4:3; James 5:20; Proverbs 11:30, as well as a group action, Philippians 2:14-16, 2 Corinthians 5:18-20; 1 Peter 2:9; 3:15
3. You are to sow the Word of God, Mark 4:14; Luke 8:11
4. You are to sow where the Word has not been received, Mark 4:4-8
5. You are to sow among a variety of hearers, in spite of resistance, Mark 4:4-8, 15-20; Mark 16:15
6. You are to sow in spite of resistance, Mark 4:4-8, 15-20; Mark 16:15
7. You are to sow with patience, realizing that producing fruit is a process, 4:15-20
8. You are to sow in faith, expecting a mighty harvest, Mark 4:20; Proverbs 11:30

Jack Littlefield teaches English in a public school in Santa Ana. A graduate of Talbot Theological Seminary, he served as a senior pastor for 20 years, including four years with Long Beach Alliance Church. You can contact Jack by email at [littlefieldjack@yahoo.com](mailto:littlefieldjack@yahoo.com), or on Facebook as well.

# Notes Page

(A PAGE FOR NOTES (OR FOR DOODLES) ABOUT THE SERMON!)



# *Crafty Women*

**Saturday, July 17**

**10AM-4PM**

Contact Donna Neel for questions: 562.335.9088

# **WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE**



## *Sunday Help Needed*

- Set up/Tear down ez-ups
- Set up/Tear down tables in the Courtyard
- Help Set up for Gospel Project
- Make coffee & Set up coffee station
- Clean up coffee station
- Make sure the facility is secure & locked

Please contact [jeremiah@lbac.org](mailto:jeremiah@lbac.org), or [office@lbac.org](mailto:office@lbac.org), to help

VBS

July  
12-16

# CONCRETE & CRANES

## Register Now

Kids

(preschool thru 5th grade)

\$25 - includes t-shirt

<https://lbac.org/connections/vbs-registration/>

## VBS T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!

Pick up your shirts at the  
Courtyard Table after service

### QUESTIONS???

Meghan Brearley

562.708.9261

[meghan@lbac.org](mailto:meghan@lbac.org)



# LBAC's Family Calendar & Events

Weekly Schedule

Regular Ministry Schedule & Contacts

## Sunday, July 4

- 9:45AM Prayer Time in Rm 102
- 10:30AM INDOOR & Livestream  
Worship & Celebration!

## Monday, July 5

- 7:00PM Pure Desire Meeting
- 7:00PM SIA In-Person & Zoom Mtg

## Tuesday, July 6

- 7:00PM Youth Group: The Deep

## Wednesday, July 7

- 7:00PM Book of Revelation Study (offsite)
- 7:00PM Budget Committee Meeting

## Thursday, July 8

- 10:00AM Youth Beach Days @ Huntington
- 6:00PM Summer Youth Group (SYK)

## Friday, July 9

- 8:00PM NA In-Person Mtg

## Sunday, July 11

- 9:45AM Prayer Time in Rm 102
- 10:30AM Gospel Project: Children's Ministry
- 10:30AM INDOOR & Livestream  
Worship & Celebration!

## MISSIONS

[Link to LBAC Missions!](#)

## GROWTH GROUPS

[Link to LBAC Growth Groups!](#)

Mid-week Adult Bible Studies (back in Fall)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Children's Ministries!](#)

Sunday Mornings:

Gospel Project @ 10:30AM

Fun-N-Funky @ 11:15AM (on hold)

## AWANA

[Link to LBAC AWANA](#)

Wednesday Nights September-May (on hold)

## YOUTH MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Youth Ministries!](#)

[Link to LBAC Youth Instagram Page](#)

Every Tuesday & Thursday Night @ 7:00PM

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Women's Ministry!](#)

Women's Ministry Event Information

Contact: [office@lbac.org](mailto:office@lbac.org)

Lydia House Meals Ministry

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month

Women Connecting with Missions

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month @ 7:00PM (on hold)

Crafty Women

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month @ 10:00AM

## MEN'S MINISTRIES

[Link to LBAC Men's Ministry!](#)

Contact: [mensministry@lbac.org](mailto:mensministry@lbac.org)

## long beach alliance church offices

3331 palo verde avenue • long beach, ca • 90808-4113

phone: 562.420.1478 email: [office@lbac.org](mailto:office@lbac.org) website: [www.lbac.org](http://www.lbac.org)

church office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00AM-5:00PM

[www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch](http://www.facebook.com/longbeachalliancechurch)

## church staff team

meghan brearley, children's director  
562.708.9261 • [meghan@lbac.org](mailto:meghan@lbac.org)

jesse duckett, youth pastor  
562.454.7122 • [jesse@lbac.org](mailto:jesse@lbac.org)

tina rand, receptionist & treasurer  
562.900.8385 • [tina@lbac.org](mailto:tina@lbac.org)

scott trickett, associate pastor  
562.972.5306 • [scott@lbac.org](mailto:scott@lbac.org)

michelle crammer, office manager  
917.288.3424 • [michelle@lbac.org](mailto:michelle@lbac.org)

chris lankford, lead pastor  
562.685.4132 • [chris@lbac.org](mailto:chris@lbac.org)

justin enayat, worship producer  
562.754.7163 • [justin@lbac.org](mailto:justin@lbac.org)

jeremiah holden, worship tech intern  
760.224.4178 • [jeremiah@lbac.org](mailto:jeremiah@lbac.org)



THE  
ALLIANCE