



# The Notes

## STORYTELLERS

### *Part 1: "Starting the Story"*

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*"Jesus always used stories and illustrations like these when speaking to the crowds. In fact, he never spoke to them without using such parables. This fulfilled what God had spoken through the prophet: 'I will speak to you in parables. I will explain things hidden since the creation of the world.'"*

**Matthew 13:34-35 (NLT)**

## **TO START TELLING STORIES THAT TRANSFORMS LIVES I NEED TO...**

- 1. ...KEEP IN MIND WHO I'M TELLING THE STORY TO**

*"Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand. In fact, in his public ministry he never taught without using parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them."*

**Mark 4:33-34 (NLT)**

## 2. ...NEVER FORGET WHY I'M TELLING THE STORY

*“The disciples came up and asked, ‘Why do you tell stories?’ He replied, ‘You’ve been given insight into God’s kingdom. You know how it works. Not everybody has this gift, this insight; it hasn’t been given to them. Whenever someone has a ready heart for this, the insights and understandings flow freely. But if there is no readiness, any trace of receptivity soon disappears. That’s why I tell stories: to create readiness, to nudge the people toward receptive insight. In their present state they can stare till doomsday and not see it, listen till they’re blue in the face and not get it. I don’t want Isaiah’s forecast repeated all over again:*

*‘Your ears are open but you don’t hear a thing.*

*Your eyes are awake but you don’t see a thing.*

*The people are blockheads!*

*They stick their fingers in their ears so they won’t have to listen;*

*They screw their eyes shut so they won’t have to look,*

*so they won’t have to deal with me face-to-face and let me heal them.’*

*But you have God-blessed eyes—eyes that see!  
And God-blessed ears—ears that hear! A lot of people, prophets and humble believers among them, would have given anything to see what you are seeing, to hear what you are hearing, but never had the chance.”*

**Matthew 13:10-17 (MSG)**

3. ...REMEMBER WHO I SHOULD BE TELLING THE STORY ABOUT

*“Jesus said, ‘Simon, I have a word for you.’ ‘Go ahead, Teacher. I want to hear it,’ he answered. ‘It’s a story about two men who were deeply in debt. One owed the bank one hundred thousand dollars, and the other only owed ten thousand dollars.’”*

**Luke 7:40-41 (TPT)**

*“He told another parable—this one addressed to people who were confident in their self-righteousness and looked down on other people with disgust. **Jesus:** Imagine two men walking up a road, going to the temple to pray. One of them is a Pharisee and the other is a despised tax collector.”*

**Luke 18:9-10 (TVB)**

*“This will help you understand the way heaven’s kingdom operates: “There once was a wealthy landowner who went out at daybreak to hire all the laborers he could find to work in his vineyard.””*

**Matthew 20:1 (TPT)**