

# “WHY SMALL IS BIG & BIG IS SMALL”

MATTHEW 13:31-33 THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

JESUS KINGDOM PARABLES (3) ~ STORIES THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

WBC SERMON NOTES 16/02/2020

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## Matthew 13:31-33

“He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds <sup>b</sup> of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

## Introduction

We continue our series on Kingdom parables and Kingdom living. Jesus was very fond of the mustard seed picture and used it in the following ways:

- The mustard seed parable, found in Matthew 13:31-33, Mark 4:30-32 and Luke 13:18-21
- Faith like a ..... (Matthew 17:20)
- Mustard seed faith and ..... (Luke 17:4-6)

## “What shall we say the Kingdom of God is like?”

(Mark 4:30; Luke 13:18)

- Jesus was getting his disciples attention: they needed to make some major shifts in their .....
- Jesus focused on the .....
- Jesus had to ..... his disciples and ..... them to where they had never been before . He was leading them out of their .....

# The Purpose of this Kingdom Parable

1. Correct their P..... on the Kingdom
2. Contemplate the P..... of the Kingdom
3. Conceive the P.....of the Kingdom

*Matthew 17:20 "Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." "*

# The Patterns of the Kingdom

Jesus wanted his disciples to discern certain patterns of growth in the Kingdom.

**There is ...**

1. I..... growth

Jesus taught this parable of the mustard seed to remind us not to be discouraged by small or slow .....

## The parable teaches us that ...

➔ God can take UNIMPORTANT & INCONSEQUENTIAL moments and make them ..... moments

➔ God loves to take the most INSIGNIFICANT PERSON and make them into a ..... VESSEL.

\* Charles Haddon Spurgeon

\* G Campbell Morgan

\* Bishop Frank Retief

➔ God can take the most UNPROMISING SITUATION and turn it into .....and .....

\* Pastor in East London

\* Good Friday

➔ God can take the most simple and elementary insight or testimony and turn it into something P.....

*“Like the trampling of a mighty army, so is the force of an idea whose time has come.” -- Victor Hugo*

## 2. I..... growth

The parable of the leaven – inward, i..... growth.

The parable of the mustard seed – outward visible growth.

This is the power of the Gospel.

Elijah’s lesson:

3. **I..... growth**

*1 Peter 1:23-25 – “For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.”*

Not just a pattern of growth, but a p..... of growth.

4. **I..... growth**

Why did Jesus use the picture of the mustard seed and not an oak or elm tree? Resistance from the .....  
The world will never ..... the Kingdom.

## **The potential of the Kingdom**

1. **The potential of .....**

Romans 10: 14;14-15;17

Will you be a mustard seed .....?

2. **The potential of .....**

Matthew 17:20

God isn't looking for people who have a perfect faith, but for people who have faith in a .....

1 Corinthians 2:9

Will you trust the Lord for great ..... things?

3. **The potential of .....**

Luke 17:5-6

Will you trust God enough with .....?