



Date: August 27, 2023

Teacher: Rev. Dr. Billy Burch

Message: "Parables - Mustard Seed"

Message-based Study

Video is available online at: visitccc.com

Connection

Outside of church, what is something you are involved in that is special to you and perhaps you even play a role in helping it grow?

Content - Parable of the Mustard Seed - Mark 4:30-32

Jesus' parable of the mustard seed is widely known, with the theme of this parable being how even in what may seem insignificant, God can make amazingly beautiful things come from them. Furthermore, Jesus uses the mustard seed to describe the Kingdom of God with an illustration of something small, showing how this mustard seed will grow into something astonishing and bigger than you even thought possible.

- 1.** Read Philippians 1:5-7. What does this passage say to you about your relationship with Christ and God's Kingdom?

- 2.** Jesus was asking a question to Himself as He said in Mark 4:30, "How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it?" Why would Jesus say this as He pondered how to describe the Kingdom of God?

- 3.** Mark 4:31 says, "It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds." It almost sounds insignificant, yet now compare this to Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom of God in Mark 4:26-29. What perspective does this give you on how God's Kingdom will grow?

4. Another illustration from Jesus for the Kingdom of Heaven comes in Matthew 13:33. When we plant seeds by serving others, praying for them, inviting them to join us in God Kingdom, even the smallest of actions on our part God can use for something astonishing. When have you shared Christ love with someone and have been blown away by the response?

5. Mark 4:32 concludes this parable with “but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches and birds can make nests in its shade.” Our faith in Christ is unshakeable, and there is space for everyone in His Kingdom.

Romans 10:13-17 challenges us to go and share this message. How can you go and plant seeds today, and who is someone in your life you wish to share Christ with?

Commitment

6. Our role is to listen and to serve the Lord as He calls us. God has invited us to plant seeds, even as small and little as a mustard seed, and watch as they grow. Today think about these words as they describe the Kingdom of God.

**His Church is:
Unmistakeable
Unexpected
Unimpeded
Unshakeable
Unparalleled and Unstoppable**

When you prepare to share Christ with others, think of how you would answer, “What is church and God’s Kingdom to you?”



Begin with prayer. Listen with care. Eat / Engage with another. Serve. Share your story.

This week, **serve** a person in your life who needs to hear and feel Jesus’ love. Begin today with this tool of how to B.L.E.S.S. them.

Would you like to give any updates to the group on someone you have shared about in the past?