



SERIES 2: MARK 4:26-34

Sermon Notes

Text: Mark 4:26-34

Intro:

As Jesus announces the arrival of God's kingdom, the begging question is, "what is the kingdom like." Jesus' parables address this question.

Mark 4:26-34

1. The parable of the growing seed (v. 26-29)

The Kingdom of God is wild.

God's kingdom is always growing, even when we think that the conditions aren't ideal.

2. The parable of the mustard seed (v. 30-32)

Isaiah 40:18

Ezekiel 17:22-23

The smallest things have the greatest potential when they're offered to God.

Conclusion:

The kingdom of God does not rely on us.

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What is the most exotic location you've ever travelled to? What is it like there? How is it different than home?

Study & Discussion:

1. What resonated with you from the sermon? What challenged or surprised you?
2. Read the parable of the growing seed (v. 26-29). What do you notice? What does it mean to say, "the kingdom of God is wild"? What conditions do we normally think need to be in place for God's kingdom to expand? Why do we think that?
3. Read the parable of the mustard seed (v. 30-32). When you think about Jesus' ministry, and the growth of the earth church in the book of Acts, how does it relate to the small seed that grows large? Can you think of specific examples?
4. When you think about the current COVID pandemic, where do you see the kingdom of God expanding like the mustard bush? What seeds are being planted? How do you think God can use the challenges of the pandemic to grow his kingdom?

Practicing the Way of Jesus:

The kingdom of God starts small, and grows large only by the power of God. Its growth does not rely on us. We get to participate by planting seeds - taking small steps of faith that can grow into large moves of God. What's one small step of faith you will take this week?

Prayer: