

The Gospel in Action (9)

Kingdom Parables

Mark 4:21-34

Intro: A Coming Kingdom

I. The Purpose of THE Lamp (v. 21-25)

II. How a Seed Grows (v. 26-29)

III. Small Seed, Big Tree (v. 30-34)

Conclusion: Do You HEAR What I Hear?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jesus presents Himself as the LAMP which reveals the hidden mysteries of God's Kingdom to those who have faith in Him. How has your faith in Jesus illuminated and changed your perspective on life and the world we live in?
2. Jesus used the metaphor of "how a seed grows" to explain that BOTH God AND the Disciple play a role in the Kingdom Harvest. Most of us naturally lean one direction or the other (it's all me/it's all God). What is your default nature, and how is God calling you to respond today?
3. Jesus paints a picture of the Kingdom as a mustard tree with large branches, providing shelter for birds of all kinds. This speaks not only of the SIZE of the Kingdom, but also the fact that people of every nation and culture are being saved by God for Eternity. How does this reality impact the way you process and approach world events (like the current situation in the Middle East, for example)?