

*At Concordia, we want to help you grow spiritually. **Growth Groups**, which will help you explore and apply the Biblical concepts that were introduced in Sunday's teaching, are a part of that process here. In between Growth Group seasons, we want to equip you to follow that same process on your own or with your family. Use this insert to help you explore and apply the concepts that were introduced in today's message.*

Today's Key Concept: Jesus tells us stories to help us keep thinking about the true nature of the kingdom of God. In Mark 4:1-34, Jesus is picturing a God who works constantly to spread the Word that He is a God who brings hope and healing and joy and blessing into our lives, even in places that don't look like they're likely to be receptive at first.

Bible verses to Explore:

Isaiah 55:8-13

Romans 1:16-17

Colossians 3:16-17

Psalms 1

Matthew 5:13-16

1 Timothy 2:4

Matthew 28:18-20

Mark 4:26-34

Application and Reflection Questions:

What do these verses tell you about God?

What do they tell you about your role in following God?

What can you do this week to sink your roots down deep into Jesus and his Word?

How can these stories in Mark 4 encourage you when you don't see the results in the church that you'd like to?

What can you do to be a part of sharing Jesus with others?