



MESSAGE NOTES

PRACTICAL TEACHING FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Title: **KINGDOM POWER**
Series: **Stories of the Kingdom**
Text: Mark 4:26-32
Speaker: **Kevin T. Hardy** Date: **September 15, 2024**

*“The time has come,” he said. “The **Kingdom of God is near.** Repent and believe the good news!” (Mark 1:14)*

WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

“The Kingdom of God is where God reigns and particularly where He reigns over men and women.” K.L. Schmidt

“The Kingdom of God is His kingship, His rule, His authority.” George Ladd

*The New Testament refers to the Kingdom of God as a **Future (eschatological) event** and a **PRESENT reality**. So the Kingdom of God is **Already HERE and Not Yet HERE.***

WHAT IS THE KINGDOM LIKE?

1. THE _____ AND _____ OF THE KINGDOM

The Parable of the Growing Seed

“This is what **the kingdom of God is like.** A **man scatters seed** on the ground. 27 **Night and day,** whether he sleeps or gets up, the **seed sprouts and grows,** though he does not know how. 28 **All by itself the soil produces grain**—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. 29 As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.” (Mk 4:26–29).

- **DO THE _____ OF GOD!** - “a man scatters the seed”
- **REPETITIVE _____ OF DOING GOD’S WORK.** - “night and day”
- **THE _____ TAKE TIME** - “all by itself the soil produces”
- **GOD MYSTERIOUSLY _____ THE RESULTS** - “all by itself”

The truth of this parable is well illustrated in the growth of the early church: “I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow” (1 Corinthians 3:6). Just like a farmer cannot force a crop to grow, an evangelist cannot force spiritual life or growth on others.

2. SMALL _____ LEAD TO GREAT _____

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

30 Again he said, “What shall we say **the kingdom of God is like**, or what parable shall we use to describe it? 31 **It is like a mustard seed**, which is the **smallest seed you plant in the ground**. 32 Yet when planted, **it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants**, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade.” (Mk 4:30–32).

3. _____, EVEN IN SMALL MEASURES, CAN PRODUCE GREAT RESULTS

*The disciples asked Jesus, “**Why couldn’t we drive it out?**”*

20 He replied, “Because **you have so little faith**. I tell you the truth, 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.**” (Mt 17:19–20).

YOU MUST _____ YOUR FAITH!