

STORYTELLER

The Parables of Jesus

Kingdom of Heaven

*The Lord has established his throne in the
heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.*

Psalm 103:19



Synoptic Gospels

(Viewed together)

Matthew 13: 31-33

³¹ He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.”

Luke 13:18-21

¹⁸ He said therefore, “What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? ¹⁹ It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.”

²⁰ And again he said, “To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? ²¹ It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened.”

Mark 4:30-32

³⁰ And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹ It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”



Mustard Seed

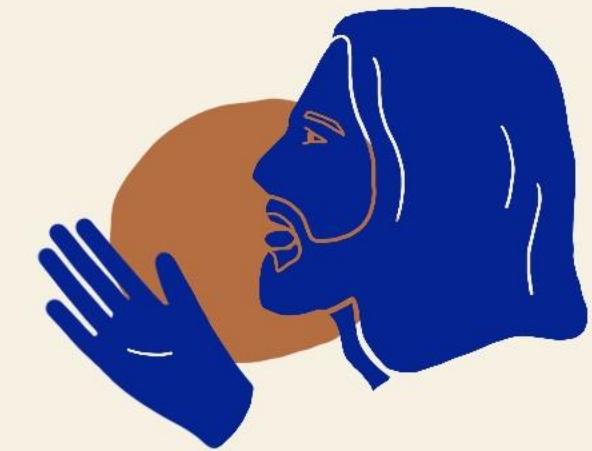


“But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are”

1 Corinthians 1:27-28



Leaven



**“Jesus, give us ears to hear...
and hearts ready to respond”**



“Your boasting is not good. Don’t you know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? ⁷ Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are.”

1 Corinthians 5:6-7



²⁹ I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. ³⁰ Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹ So be on your guard!

Acts 20: 19-31



If we only preach encouragement:

- *We confuse numbers with faithfulness.*
- *We call success “blessing” without examination.*
- *We tolerate leaven because it looks productive*

If we only preach warning:

- *We respond in fear*
- *We distrust growth*
- *We lose confidence in God’s promises.*



*Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.*

Psalm 139:23-24



“Let’s not make Lent be about what we give up, but about what God exposes, heals, and grows.”

