



Mark: More Teachings of Jesus

Mar 13

INTRODUCTION: Today Jesus shares three other parables, the first linked to the Sower and the others about the Kingdom. Let us realize who Jesus is and that His Kingdom is coming. Parables are difficult to understand and so may the Spirit bless each one.

REVIEW: The Bible Project, [Mark](#) (be cautious with other videos)

KEY POINT: responding, Kingdom, listening

A.M. SERMON RECAP (Mk 4:1–20, Parable of the Sower)

1. Why did Jesus tell this story?
2. Why did Jesus speak in parables? What helps us accept this?
3. What is the meaning of this parable?
4. Other applications...

P.M. SERMON RECAP (Jn 4:27–42, Andrew Versteeg)

5. What is the context of this passage?
6. What three testimonies exist about Jesus?
7. How does this passage encourage us to trust in a follow Jesus?
8. Other?

REVIEW: Mark 4:21–34

QUESTIONS:

A Lamp Under a Basket

A warning for those who reject Christ and His message

1. *In the context the lamp represents Jesus' message of the Kingdom, which begins obscure and hidden and yet one day will blaze with light at His second coming.*
2. **How many people at the time of this parable understood who Jesus was? How many do today? How many will one day? (whether they like it or not, Phil 2:10).**
3. *As Jesus' Kingdom comes His light exposes the hard and dark secrets of the heart. How?*
4. **Why then should we heed v. 23?**

5. *The measure is how we hear and respond to Jesus. If we respond to Jesus with an open heart, more will be added; he'll take up residence...but if we don't...? (How is this similar to Mk 8:35?).*

6. Why is it important to warn people of the negative side of the Gospel?

Seed Growing

Jesus returns to people as plants. Not only do people misunderstand Jesus but also His Kingdom. What is the Kingdom like?

7. What must happen before a plant can grow?

8. **As plants miraculously grow, who causes the growth of the Kingdom?**

9. While it can be cultivated, how does a new life start, which God tends, when someone dies to self and is raised with Christ?

10. Contrary to contemporary expectations, at what speed would the Kingdom come? **Why is patience needed in Kingdom work?**

11. *The harvest and sickle stand for Judgement. When Jesus people are gathered in the end will come (Joel 3:13).* **What will the Lord find in our life when He comes?**

Mustard Seed

Again, the speed at which the Kingdom comes defies expectations.

12. *Mustard seed, metaphorically the smallest seed, would grow into a bush some 12' tall. However, it takes time. Why does the growth of the Kingdom take time? **How is its growth sometimes imperceivable? How is faith needed?***

13. **Thinking of Acts, how did the Kingdom slowly grow?** How should growth throughout history amaze us?

14. *Birds- probably more than an incidental details, it likely refers to the inclusion of the Gentiles (Dan 4:20–22).* How would this have run contrary to Jewish expectations?

15. **How is the Kingdom small in Markdale? How has it grown/is growing now?**

16. Read Rev 14:14–20. What kind of double harvest is coming? Are we ready?

Parables

17. Jesus reaffirms the purpose of parables (v. 11).

RECAP

18. How does this passage encourage faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God? (1:1)
19. How does this passage teach us about salvation in Him?
20. What does this passage teach us about following him?

NEXT WEEK: March 20- Jesus Rejected and Disciples Sent Out,
Mk 6:1–13