

## Weekly Study Guide

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

MONDAY: How would you express the Kingdom concept of the short parable? Read again the parable of the Mustard Seed in Matthew 13:31-32. If one of our takeaways is that something small can be something big or valuable what is the connection to the Kingdom?

TUESDAY: This parable is in a chapter full of 'seed' language and other parables. It starts out at the beginning of Matthew 13. Read the whole chapter. Twelve times Jesus uses the word 'Kingdom'. What 5 things can you say are true about the Kingdom based on Jesus' teachings in this chapter?

WEDNESDAY: Compare Matthew 13 with Mark 4. Both contain mustard seed parables in a package of other seed parables. Jesus has just come out of a grainfield (Matthew 12:2 & Mark 2:23) and uses the familiar surroundings and understandings of the people to make his points about the Kingdom. Choose either Matthew or Mark and retell the parables using familiar surroundings and understandings of today. Don't use seeds. Make the same points with different stories and then tell them to someone you love.

THURSDAY: What is something in your life that you first saw as small/insignificant that you now see as large and significant? Consider Love as expressed in the song 'Magic Penny'. Put that title in a YouTube search and you will find it or use this web address <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IclFQj4I3F0>.

Much of our world tells us that love is a finite thing. Our God tells us it is not.

Our world tells us the small things are not as good as big things. Our God tells us it is not so. What ideas might God be wanting to plant your heart and head that could blossom like the Mustard seed?

FRIDAY: So, Jesus is walking through the fields and people are all around him, he is telling the parable of the seeds and then perhaps he comes to an actual mustard seed plant and tells the mustard seed parable. Then he pauses,... one of those pauses that is intended to make space for someone else to speak up. You are there and right as Jesus pauses he looks at you as if to say – your turn. What question do you ask? Why?