Little Is Much When God Is In It Miracles and Parables—Part 5 Matthew 13:31-35 February 26, 2023

"He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches.' He told them still another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough.' Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: 'I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.'" --Matthew 13:31-35

Let's examine both of these short parables and see how they apply to our lives:

1. _____: God's kingdom starts _____ but grows _____!

There are two different ways to think about how God's Kingdom starts small and grows large:

a. _____: The Church started with a few people and has grown into a global family

"Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day...and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."--Acts 2:41, 47

b. ____: Your initial commitment to Christ grows until you become a source of shelter and support to others

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." --Galatians 6:2

"For each one should carry his own load." -Galatians 6:5

2. _____: God's _____ changes your life gradually!

This yeast parable can be applied to three areas of our life.

1. _____: Christ-in-you ______every part of your life

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." --Philippians 1:6

2. _____: The Kingdom isn't about outward appearance; it's a ______

"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." --Romans 14:17

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy might be complete." --John 15:11

3. _____: We can be ______ for change in our culture!

Jesus prayed, "As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world."--John 17:18)