

Subtle Saturation

Matthew 13:31-33

KINGDOM COME

The kingdom of God = God's or
Jesus brought God's kingdom by conquering, and
LIKE MUSTARD SEED
"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 seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." Matthew 13:31-32
God's kingdom will be in its infancy but grow into infinity.
LIKE YEAST
"The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened." Matthew 13:33
While God's kingdom may seem inconspicuous and insignificant, it will eventually all things.

SUBTLE SATURATION

"The Kingdom is now here with persuasion rather than with power."

George Eldon Ladd

How to approach kingdom-building today:

"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." Habakkuk 2:14

KINGDOM COME: Subtle Saturation

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Questions based on the sermon from October 20, 2024

Getting to Know Me

- 1. Now that we're halfway through this series, what has stood out to you most from the passages on the Kingdom of God?
- 2. What are some things that start small and grow quite large over time?

Digging Deeper

- 3. Jesus uses the mustard seed in Matthew 13:31-32 for a reason. What are some characteristics of the mustard seed, and how do they relate to the kingdom of God?
- 4. What point does Jesus make about the kingdom of God in these verses?
- 5. Although yeast is often used as a symbol of sin, in Matthew 13:33 Jesus uses it to illustrate the subtle power of the Kingdom of God. What are the key characteristics of yeast, and how does it reflect the Kingdom of God?
- 6. What do these parables teach about how Jesus' kingdom came about, and how does this differ from the expectations of those waiting for the Messiah to set up his kingdom?
- 7. Even though Jesus came in a way different than many expect, what are some tangible examples of God's kingdom growing and spreading even today?

- 8. The rule and reign of God shapes how we relate to earthly authorities. What do the following verses have to say about submission?
 - Romans 13:1-7
 - I Peter 2:13-17
- 9. We also see an example of subversion in Acts 4:18-20 and Acts 5:29. What happened in these passages and what are some other biblical examples of subtly subverting earthly powers for the sake of God's kingdom?

Making it Personal

- 10. Pastor Phil also spoke about the promise of God's kingdom one day saturating all things. What glimpses do you see of this even today? What opportunities do you have in your everyday work or home life to see God's kingdom come here and now?
- 11. What excites or frustrates you in what you're learning about the kingdom of God?
- 12. What is one mindset or habit that is being challenged as you yield to God's kingdom more in your life and thinking?

Pray:

I Timothy 2:1-6 says, "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way."

Without opinion or commentary, simply list the names of those in authority over you – bosses, teachers, and leaders of all kinds – and ask that God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.



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KINGDOM COME

The kingdom of God = God's <u>rule</u> or <u>reign</u>.

Jesus brought God's kingdom by conquering <u>Satan</u>, <u>sin</u> and death.

LIKE MUSTARD SEED

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Matthew 13:31-32

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LIKE YEAST

"The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened." Matthew 13:33

While God's kingdom may seem inconspicuous and insignificant, it will eventually <u>influence</u> all things.

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