

Sermon Discussion Guide

6/28/2026

Sermon: Kingdom Stories “Don’t Despise Small Beginnings”

Text: **Matthew 13:31-32**

Introduction:

A little seed surrendered into the hands of God can change the landscape. Think about a time when something started small but eventually became much bigger than you expected. It could be: A relationship, a habit, a skill, a project, a decision...

What made it difficult to recognize its potential in the beginning?

From the Text

Read Matthew 13:31-32 together. Also read the parallel passage: **Mark 4:30-32**

Discussion:

Observe the Story

- 1. Why do you think Jesus chose something as small as a mustard seed to describe the Kingdom of God?** What does that tell us about how God often works?
- 2. What words or images stand out to you in this passage?** What do you notice about: The seed? The planting? The growth? The tree? The birds?
- 3. What is surprising about the contrast between the seed and the tree?** Why do you think Jesus highlights that contrast?

Digging Deeper

- 4. What are some "small seeds" of faithfulness that God uses to grow His Kingdom?**
- 5. The sermon asked:** "Is this surrendered enough for God to use?" How does that change the way we view our gifts, time, resources, and influence?

Kingdom Multiplication

Jesus says the mustard seed grows into a tree where birds find shelter. The Kingdom does not only grow larger, it grows outward, it becomes a blessing to others.

- 6. Read Genesis 12:2.** God tells Abraham: "I will bless you... and you will be a blessing.

over...

"What does this teach us about the purpose of God's work in our lives? How is God inviting you to become a blessing to others?"

7. Every disciple carries seed.

What "seed" has God placed in your hands right now?

Examples: Your story, influence, family, workplace, neighborhood, spiritual gifts, how might God want to use it?

Reflection

Spend a moment reflecting on these questions:

1. Where have I underestimated what God can do?
2. What small act of obedience is God inviting me into?
3. What do I need to surrender into God's hands?

Kingdom Response

Complete this sentence: "God, I want to trust You with _____."

What is one practical step of surrender or obedience you can take this week?

Closing Thought: The Kingdom of God rarely begins the way we expect. It often begins quietly. It often begins small. But the power was never in the size of the seed. The power is in the God who gives it life.

A little seed surrendered into the hands of God can change the landscape.

Close in prayer:

Pray for:

- Eyes to see where God is already working.
- Faith to trust Him in hidden seasons.
- Courage to take small steps of obedience.
- A willingness to surrender our lives so others may be blessed.

"Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin..."