



Daily Reflections

July 31, 2017

Matthew 13: 31-35

Jesus proposed a parable to the crowds.

"The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field.

It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.

It becomes a large bush, and the birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches."

He spoke to them another parable.

"The Kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened."

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables.

He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:

I will open my mouth in parables,

I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation of the world.

Our Scripture Reflection

Both parables in today's Gospel text reveal a wonderful Truth about the Kingdom of God: it begins in a small way and grows into something magnificent. What does that mean for you? Be patient. Trust. Have faith. Do not allow temporary setbacks or crises of faith to cause you to lapse into despair. It boils down to getting on the road and staying on the road until the journey towards glory is complete.

Food for your Journey

In 1984, Carol Kane started small like the mustard seed ... operating out of her garage, financed by her own money, and with the help of her husband and children. She believed that through her efforts, small as they were, she could remove some of the boulders from the mountain of obstacles facing the homeless, the elderly and single—parent families in their transition from the “street” to once more becoming productive and whole members of the community.

Two years later, she moved her overflowing inventory to a small leased industrial space in Longwood. This soon expanded into two additional adjacent warehouse spaces. In June 1988, The Mustard Seed of Longwood, Inc. was created as a non profit corporation

From a single woman’s dream of wishing to help one family per month, the Mustard Seed has grown into an organization that helps over a 1,000 families a year with furniture and 700 families with clothing. Over the course of a year, an estimated \$1.5 million of furniture, clothing and other household goods are distributed free of charge.

—“History of the mustard seed,” The Mustard Seed of Central Florida Web Site, Mustardseedfla.org. Retrieved April 23, 2004.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Please guide, direct and protect me on my journey of faith. If I should stumble and fall, help me to pick myself up and get back on the road. Amen.