



Daily Reflections

July 30, 2018

Scripture

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

For all those who think they have nothing of significance to offer in the work of God's Kingdom, today's Gospel challenges you to re-think your position.

The Kingdom says Our Lord starts out in very small, even undetectable ways. Like the growth of a tiny seed or the effect of a very small amount of leaven, huge results can occur. Our job is to offer what we have been given to the Lord and to do the work that has been assigned to us as disciples. God will take care of the outcome. Be prepared to be amazed!

Food for your Journey

How many of us have had the experience of coming home from school, as a kid, with a bean seed planted in black soil inside a paper cup? Brimming with hope, we placed that cup of dirt on a sunny windowsill, watered it each day, and before long, an impertinent green sprout was pushing its way upwards toward the sun. No inventor, no matter how technically skilled, could invent such a thing as a seed. It's a biological marvel: pure gift, bestowed on humanity by the Most High. The Lord is so profligate with this gift that the supply of seeds never runs out. Always, the world's plants are sloughing off new ones in such abundance that we can afford to reserve a few for kindergartners to press down into cups of topsoil with chubby fingers, for the sheer joy of watching them grow.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You love me and trust me to be Your disciple. You give me more than I realize to do Your good work. May I always begin my efforts with prayer and use my time and talent to serve the needs of others. Amen