October 29, 2019

Scripture

Luke 13: 18-21
Jesus said, "What is the Kingdom of God like? To what can I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that a man took and planted in the garden. When it was fully grown, it became a large bush and 'the birds of the sky dwelt in its branches.'"
Again he said, "To what shall I compare the Kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch of dough was leavened."

Our Scripture Reflection

In using the images of the mustard seed and yeast, Jesus taught that great things can come from the seemingly little things that we have. How often do you complain that your faith is not strong enough? But just look at the often klutzy apostles whom Jesus called. They failed so many tests, however, almost all of them would go on to found Churches and eventually lay down their lives for the sake of the Gospel.

Food for your Journey

"The Art of Possibility," by Benjamin and Rosamund Stone Zander … claims that life is full of wonder and possibility if we just let ourselves out of the box of our power-hungry, judgmental, "bigger is better" worldview. It suggests such things as “giving yourself an A” before you even begin a project. Look at where you are headed and where you want to go and then claim in advance that you are going to achieve it. Give yourself the A and then watch yourself live up to your own expectations. That is mustard-seed faith.
It also suggests that we remember “Rule Number 6” at all times. Rule number 6 says we should never take ourselves seriously. Never. What are the other rules? There are none! That is mustard-seed faith.

Finally, or rather, one more thing, it suggests that we imagine our lives are perfect just as they are. We have challenges to face, yes. Some of them are truly daunting. But no matter the challenges, we have the power of a loving God walking every step of the way with us.

—Kristi Denham, “Mustard-seed faith,”

A Prayer from the Heart

Gracious Father, Faith is a gift that You give me but also something at which I must work daily. When I find myself discouraged because of my seemingly weak faith, help me remember the story about mustard seed. With Your Grace and my daily effort, I will do good things for Your Kingdom. Amen