



# Daily Reflections

**October 27, 2020**

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## 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."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

"Mustard" is usually identified as *Sinapis nigra*, "black mustard," which grows to a shrub about 4 feet high, but occasionally can grow to 15 feet high, and would qualify as a "tree." Jesus mentions the growth, but the main emphasis seems to be on the beginning (very small) and the end (very large). Small beginnings, large endings.

He compares it to a small lump of yeasty dough that is kneaded into a large amount of flour until it is homogenized.

The point of the parable? A small amount of yeast will leaven a large amount of flour. The tiny lump of yeast will soon pervade a large volume of dough. Small beginnings, large endings.

Just because the Kingdom didn't seem very great at the time He taught these parables, Jesus is saying it doesn't mean that it will stay small. The Kingdom of God begins as small and insignificant, but grows to become large and powerful.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Christians were never meant to be normal. We've always been holy troublemakers, we've always been creators of uncertainty, agents of dimension that's incompatible with the status quo; we do not accept the world as it is, but we insist on the world becoming the way that God wants it to be. And the Kingdom of God is different from the patterns of this world.

—Jacques Ellul, *The Meaning of the City* (Wipf and Stock, 2011).

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Our Father, Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy KINGDOM come.  
Thy Will be done,  
on earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.