



# Daily Reflections

**January 27, 2017**

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## Scripture

### **Mark 4:26-34**

Jesus said to the crowds:

"This is how it is with the Kingdom of God;  
it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land  
and would sleep and rise night and day  
and the seed would sprout and grow,  
he knows not how.

Of its own accord the land yields fruit,  
first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.  
And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once,  
for the harvest has come."

He said,

"To what shall we compare the Kingdom of God,  
or what parable can we use for it?

It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground,  
is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.

But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants  
and puts forth large branches,  
so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade."  
With many such parables  
he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it.  
Without parables he did not speak to them,  
but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Our Lord often used parables to describe aspects of the Kingdom of God. In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us that the Kingdom starts out in the smallest of ways, like a mustard seed, and manages to grow without our observing its constant and steadfast growth. It is amazing how God chooses to work in our world, and especially, in our lives. The message: be patient and trust.

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## **Food for your Journey**

We can't preach the Good News and then be the bad news.

--Karin Bacon, Houston, Texas.

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## **Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, During those times when I stumble and fall, help me to remember that You are not done with me yet. Give me the patience to "keep on keeping on". Amen.

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