

Mark 4:21-34
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SERMON NOTES & QUOTES

Maybe you are here today and you don't know which way to turn, which way to go. You're in the dark. You need some direction. "I can't see clearly. I don't know what God is doing. I feel confused, anxious, and in the dark." Where in your life do you need light?

Maybe you've been asking God to help you grow, to take a next step, but you feel like you're stuck. Nothing's happening. You're losing hope. "I can't change myself. I can't fix what's broken. I feel powerless." Where in your life do you need to grow?

Maybe you feel like you're in some kind of danger. You need to find some safety or shelter. You're looking for a place to rest and refuel. "I feel anxious about the future. Life feels too turbulent. I need shelter, stability, and safety." Where in your life do you need shelter?

In Mark 4 Jesus tells us 3 stories and gives us 1 principle that help us understand the nature of His Kingdom. And when we bow the knee to Jesus as King, He gives us light; He multiplies our obedience; He helps us grow; and He brings us shelter.

Four headings today:

1. The lamp that shines
2. The measure that multiplies
3. The seed that grows
4. The branch that shelters

The lamp shines. So, shine brightly.

The measure multiplies. So, give generously.

The seed grows. So, sow patiently.

The branch shelters. So, rest confidently.

This is hard. I can't do it!

You're right. You can't. But Jesus can do for us what we can't do for ourselves!

SERMON NOTES AND QUOTES

Jesus is the Lamp.

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.
John 8:12

Jesus is the Measure.

He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name... Philippians 2:6-9

Jesus is the Seed.

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." John 12:24

Jesus is the Tree / the Branch.

"Christ Himself is the grain of mustard seed, who, planted in the garden of the sepulchre, grew up a great tree; He was a grain of seed when He died, and a tree when He rose again; a grain of seed in the humiliation of the flesh, a tree in the power of His majesty." - Catena Aurea, commentary on the four Gospels; by Thomas Aquinas

On the mountain height of Israel will I plant [the tree], that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD...
Ezekiel 17:23-24a

The tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yields its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. Revelation 22:2

Jesus is...

- The Lamp that shines
- The Measure that multiplies
- The Seed that grows
- The Branch that shelters