

Kingdom of God 2 Leader's Guide

See Bible study at the bottom of the page.

- 1. In Mark 2:26-9, Jesus tells a parable about seeds that sprout and grow without any help from the farmer. The seeds have life and power in themselves. What do the seeds in the story stand for? What does the parable mean? (The seeds stand for the message of the kingdom. The parable shows that the message has power to change lives.)**
- 2. What are mustard seeds like? (They are very small. They are the smallest of all seeds.)**
- 3. In Matthew 13:31-2, what happens to the tiny mustard seed? (When it's planted, it grows and becomes the largest of garden plants, a tree. Birds nest in its branches.)**
- 4. How is the kingdom of God like a mustard seed? (The kingdom started very small, with just 12 men. It grew and increased and became HUGE. It's world - wide!)**
- 5. In the parable of the wheat and the weeds, what kind of seed did the farmer plant? See Matthew 13:24. (He planted good seed.)**
- 6. What happened while people were sleeping? (An enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat. Then he slipped away.)**
- 7. Once the weeds started growing, what did the farmer say they needed to do? See Matthew 13:29-30a. (They should not pull the weeds. They would uproot the wheat if they did. They needed to let both grow together until the harvest.)**
- 8. What would happen to the weeds at the harvest? What would happen to the wheat? See Matthew 13:30b. (The weeds would be tied into bundles and burned. The wheat would be stored in the barn.)**
- 9. Who is the farmer in this parable? See Matthew 13:37. (Son of man. Jesus.)**
- 10. What is the field? What are the good seeds? What are the weeds? Who is the enemy? (The field is the world. The good seeds are the people in God's kingdom. The weeds are the people who belong to the evil one. The enemy is the devil.)**
- 11. What is the harvest? What will happen at the harvest? See Matthew 13:39-43. (The harvest is the end of the world/age. Those who follow the devil will face a fiery furnace, weeping, and gnashing of teeth. Those in the Father's kingdom will shine like the sun.)**
- 12. If you're in the kingdom of darkness, how can you get in to the kingdom of light? (You can admit you've done wrong, repent, and ask God to forgive you for the bad things you've done. You need to place your faith in Jesus and the work He did for you on the cross.)**

The Kingdom of God- Part 2

Parables of the Kingdom

Matthew 13: 24-30; 36-43 (*Parable of the Weeds*) Who Is Jesus?

- Teaches crowds using symbolic stories v. 24, 36
- Farmer. Plants good seed in his field
- Owner of the field, Master v.27
- Aware of activity of enemy v. 28
- Does not want any good seeds uprooted
- Allows good and evil to grow together until harvest
- Has perfect timing for everything v. 30
- Commands angels v. 41
- Has a barn, storage area
- Gives more revelation when we ask v.36
- Son of Man

Who Is Man?

- Some are good seeds, some are bad
- Good= children of kingdom
- Bad = People who belong to Evil One
- Lawless v. 41
- Will be sorted at end of age
- Some will end up in fiery furnace, weeping, suffering and in pain
- Some are righteous by believing in Jesus- will shine like sun in Father's kingdom
- Some do not have spiritual ears- spiritually deaf
- Some are spiritually alert and can hear
- We need to respond if we are able to understand

Who Is Devil?

- Enemy. Sneaky. Comes in when we're not watching
- Wants to mess up harvest
- Plants weeds. Look similar to wheat. Tries to deceive.

Who Are Angels?

- Help Jesus.
- Obey his orders v. 41
- Harvesters, Reapers
- Gather all

So What?

- Christians and non-Christian live side by side in world
- Wicked will experience judgment at end of age
- Righteous through faith in Jesus will experience joy and victory
- Hell is real. Am I praying for my non-Christian friends?
- Am I sharing the Good News with my non-Christian friends?
- There will be a day of justice even if things seem unjust now
- Heaven is real! I will be shining, full of joy if I believe
- We need to ask Jesus for revelation of his teaching like disciples did

2. Matthew 13:33 What is kingdom?

- Like yeast, starter dough – powerful. Little goes long way
- Microscopic. Will spread throughout all dough
- Kingdom begins small (Like mustard seed)
- Kingdom grows in its influence. Becomes large and powerful.
- Yeast changes, transforms dough. Changes whatever it contacts
- Flour = 3 measures = 22 kilos = enough to feed 300 people! Big impact!
- Kingdom starts humbly. Kingdom work is UNSEEN, secret, from inside.
- Kingdom started with 12 men and spread world-wide!
- Kingdom of God changes culture

So What?

- Christians need to be change agents. Through God's power, they need to transform their culture!

- **Gospel is powerful. Can transform lives and culture**
- **God wants to use ME as a reformer, to change my world!**