

Deeper Life Notes

Jesus Rules: "Establishing God's Kingdom" (Mark 4:1-34)

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Watertown
Evangelical
Free Church

WARM UP

"Our lives are filled with stories..."

→ Jesus used stories (parables) to teach us about God's kingdom...

REVIEW

Jesus came proclaiming, "Time's up! God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the message!" (Mark 1:15, *The Message*)

HEAR and HEED the Word of God!

READ

Mark 4:1-34

1. HEAR the Word of God: "He who has ears, let him hear!" -Mark 4:9

a) The Parable of the Sower (vv.1-20)

Seed = the _____¹ of God

Sower = the one who _____² the word

Soils = 4 different responses to the word of God:

I. Path (v.4) = the hard heart

II. Rocky (vv.5-6) = the shallow heart

III. Thorny (v.7) = the _____³ heart

(Ephesians 2:1-3, Isaiah 9:6-7, 2 Cor 2:16, John 12:40, Matthew 3:10, Romans 7:4, Col 1:10)

IV. Good (v.8) = the believing heart: fruitful!

(Mark 1:35, Matthew 7:17, Luke 8:15, John 12:24, John 15:4-8)

¹ word

² proclaims

³ crowded/preoccupied

b) The Parable of the Lamp (vv.21-25)

- Having heard the word, proclaim it - let it shine! (Matthew 5:16)
- The word of God is a stewardship we are accountable to (1 Peter 4:10)

c) The Parable of the Seed Growing (vv.26-29)

- God is the gracious _____⁴ (1 Corinthians 3:7)
- Growth in the word is beyond our comprehension & control (John 3:8)
- Spiritual growth is a process (Zechariah 4:10)
- God determines the time of harvest (Ecclesiastes 3)

d) The Parable of the Mustard Seed (vv.30-32)

- God's kingdom starts _____ & grows to be _____!⁵
(Isaiah 11:9, Daniel 3:5, Colossians 1:6)

2. HEED the Word of God

a) Our work:

- Savor the Seed of God's word!
- Sow God's word with _____!⁶

b) God's work:

⁴ Sower

⁵ small...great

⁶ confidence