**Everyday Stories of Jesus – Lk. 13:18**

**Focal Truth: The kingdom of Lord Jesus Christ grows in those who believe**

The Lord Jesus asks the crowd – what is the kingdom of God like? To what shall I compare it?

The Lord Jesus explains how the kingdom of God in Jesus Christ produces spiritual growth **Remember**

The kingdom of God is the reign of God through the Lord Jesus Christ **in the world**

The kingdom of God is the reign of God **in the believers under the Lordship of Christ**

The kingdom of God is the reign of God **is the heavenly** in Jesus Christ

The kingdom of God is the reign of God **on earth** when Jesus returns again

**Observations**

1. **The kingdom of God grows inside the mind of everyone who receives Jesus Christ**

**13:18 -19**

*What is the kingdom of God like, and to what shall I compare it? It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and threw into his own garden, and it grew…*

1. The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed

Lk. 8:11 – the sower sowed the seed = *the seed is the word of God*

1 Pet. 1:23 – *since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God*

1. The seed of the word of God grows in those with good hearts

Lk. 8:15 – *the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience*

Hear the word, hold it fast - **receptive minds** to the truths of God’s word & the gospel

Honest hearts – **humble minds** to receive the truths of God’s word & the gospel

Good minds – **willing minds** to receive the truths of God’s word & the gospel

 **The reign of God in a life begins with receiving the implanted word of God**

1. **The kingdom of God shelters everyone who trusts in Jesus Christ 13:18 – 19**

*and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air rested in its branches*

1. The kingdom of God is like a seed that grows into a tree

Ezek. 17:22 – 23 – *thus says the Lord God, I will also take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and set it out; I will pluck from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one and I will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the high mountain of Israel I will plant it, that it may bring forth boughs and bear fruit and become a stately cedar. and birds of every kind will nest under it, they will nest in the shade of its branches*

1. The Lord Jesus Christ is the promised one like the tree planted that gives protection to everyone who trust in Him – birds of every kind nest there
2. The kingdom of God is protection for all who trust in Jesus Christ – the woman bent double

Lk. 13:12 -13 – *When Jesus saw her, He called her over & said to her, Woman, you are freed from your sickness. He laid hands on her, & immediately she was made erect again & began glorifying God*

Lk. 13:16 – *this daughter of Abraham as she is, whom Satan has bound for eighteen long years, should she not have been released from this bond on the Sabbath day?*

**Consider**

* + The Lord Jesus power to heal & save reveals the kingdom of God
	+ The Lord preached the kingdom of God & healed in His earthly ministry
	+ The kingdom of God in Christ is in word & power!
1. **The kingdom of God fills the inside of everyone who believes in Jesus Christ 13:20 -21**

*And again, He said, to what shall I compare the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three pecks of flour until it was all leavened*

1. The kingdom of God is like leaven hidden in the flour

Lk. 17:21 – *the kingdom of God is within you*

The hidden work of God’s kingdom is done in the life of the believer

Phil. 2:12 - *for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to do according to His good pleasure*

Col. 3:15 – *let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts…*

1. The kingdom of God like leaven fills – permeates the bread

Eph. 5:18 – *don’t get drunk with wine but be filled with the Spirit*

Acts. 13:52 – *the disciples were continually filled with joy & the Holy Spirit*

 **Consider**

* + The believer is filled with the Spirit
	+ Filled with love of Christ
	+ Filled with knowledge of His will
	+ Filled with the fullness of God

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. **God’s word like seed grows in the minds of everyone who receives it, anywhere it is shared**
2. **God’s reigns exists where the word of God is implanted & believed**
3. **God’s reign in Christ comes in word & power to save and change those who believe**
4. **God’s reign in Christ fills & controls the minds of those who are saved**

*What is the kingdom of God like, and to what shall I compare it? It like a mustard seed, which a man took and threw into his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air nested in its branches…it is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three pecks of flour until it was all leavened.*

***To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!***