



Series title: The Kingdom of God

Session title: Small beginnings

The KOG starts small – this is smallest of all seeds! Mustard is also a toxic weed in eastern culture so this teaching sounded crazy to the listeners because you cannot get rid of mustard since its root system is so immense. No-one would plant it! But this is the point! The KOG is counter-intuitive but unstoppable! The type of mustard is a tree when grown, not the usual type of mustard shrub; It becomes a blessing to birds and all those around. The fact that it becomes a big tree and birds nest there hints back to OT scripture. Read Ezekiel 17:22 -24:

God's people are a tree in exile and He is going to replant them and they will grow and birds from everywhere will nest there. This was the original mission to bless all nations. God raises up His Kingdom and causes the low plant to grow tall to show who God is and what He does. God's mission and Jesus' confirming story is that we, His people, would fulfil the call to bless the nations through being a small unstoppable Kingdom with great potential, revealing God through generously loving and blessing the nations.

Talk it through together

- Ask God to how us what He wants us to know personally from these parables.
- How can we show generous hospitality to those God has placed in our lives?

Resources

Listen to:

Bema Episode 111

Read through:

Matthew 13:31-33

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Watch: