

God's Kingdom: Everywhere, Actual, Mysterious

Isaiah 25:6-9; Revelation 21:1-5; Mark 4:26-29

1. What teaching technique that Jesus most frequently used gives us the best glimpse into the mind of Jesus? _____
 - What is a parable?
 - *“With _____ parables Jesus spoke the word to them.”* Mark 4:33
 - How many parables of Jesus are there? _____
 - What should I be prepared to do when I read the parables of Jesus?

- Robert Farrar Capon, The Parables of the Kingdom; The Parables of Grace; The Parables of Judgment
2. What does Jesus include in most every parable and what am I encouraged to do with these aspects of Jesus' parables?

3. What is our first reaction to Jesus' "Parable of the Growing Seed?" (Mark 4:26-29) Why?

4. What is Jesus' blunt statement that begins the parable in verse 26?
 - What is Jesus wanting us to understand?

Surprising Twist #1 - In the coming of Jesus, God's kingdom is now _____.

- What is the seed in the parable? _____
- What is the ground in the parable? _____
- Where is the seed scattered? _____
- What is Jesus teaching?

- Why can this be surprising to us?
- What does Jesus want me to know?

Surprising Twist #2 With the coming of Jesus, God's Kingdom is _____.

- What does this mean?

- Why may this be shocking to us?

Surprising Twist #3 With the coming of Jesus, God's Kingdom is _____.

- Why is verse 28 one of the most shocking statements in the Bible?

- Why is God's Kingdom mysterious to us?

- What may be most shocking to us in this parable describing the coming of God's kingdom?

5. What are some next steps?

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