



Once Upon a Time: Lessons from the Master Storyteller

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Lesson: The Mustard Seed **Matthew 13:31-32**

While not a “series” in the technical sense since we’ll discuss this off and on throughout the year, today we start “Once Upon a Time: Lessons from the Master Storyteller” which is a study of the parables of Jesus. Our study continues with the parable known as “The Mustard Seed.”

ICEBREAKER:

- Do you prefer mustard or mayonnaise?
- What is something that started small in your life and turned out to grow into something huge?

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Read over Matthew 13:31-32
2. What is it that is so great about mustard seeds? Why would Jesus use these seeds over any other type of seed in this type of parable?
3. From our sermon this morning - what is unique about the word “took” in verse 31? (comes from Greek “Labon”, which means to “deliberately take,” or in other words, there was purpose and thought to planting the seed) Why is that important to point out?
4. Discuss how Christianity began small - but has grown -
 - a. It began with one person - Christ
 - b. This one person grew up in a small, good for nothing town (Nazareth)
 - c. Spread by men who were not mighty or famous, but common
 - d. These average men had a small faith (Mt. 6:30; 8:24-26; 16:8)
5. How does this parable offer encouragement to Christians?
6. Even though this parable is about overall Kingdom growth, how can this parable relate to growth in the local church?
7. Bonus question - Get your pencils ready - Let’s pretend the NWT CofC family could grow like a mustard seed. If every family represented in your Life Group tonight could bring two families to be with us at GW this month, and then those families do the same thing the next month - and so on and so forth - how many new families would we have in just one year? (Hint - if you start small like a mustard seed - how large can you grow?)