

NEW INFLUENCE

July 5, 2020 Luke 13:18-21

OPENING QUESTION

Have you ever heard of the "Butterfly Effect"? When a butterfly flaps its wings in one part of the world, it might affect things in another part of the world in a major way. Can you think of a time when something small in your life eventually triggered something big?

Small Beginnings...Big Impact

Luke 13:18-19

- ❖ The tiny seed placed in the right soil emerges as a mighty tree.
- ❖ Although the present realization of the Kingdom may appear small, its power is already here, and will grow to immeasurable size!
- ❖ The emphasis is not on growth per se, but what appears as insignificant will have great significance in the future.

1. When has a small thing someone has done for you become a big thing as you grew older? Did you know it would be a big thing at the time?

2. Read Ezekiel 17:22-24 and compare to Luke 13:18-19. Does God promise to grow His Kingdom? What is your role?

Small Amount...Big Influence

Luke 13:20-21

- ❖ A tiny amount of leaven (yeast) added to 50 lb of dough can feed 160 people.
- ❖ The leaven slowly permeates the dough and eventually penetrates the whole loaf.
- ❖ Once started, the Kingdom will grow according to God's power, and no one can stop it!

1. Leaven (yeast) was actually old fermented dough which is added to the new dough to start fermentation. Why do you think Jesus used this illustration for His Kingdom?

2. Is this parable about adding yeast, or the spreading of the fermentation, or the growth of the bread, or the contrast that a little does a lot? Maybe all of the above? Where do you fit into this parable?

NEW NORMAL

CLOSING QUESTIONS

Hear

What are some things that stood out to you in this week's sermon and Scriptures?

Obey

What are some small things you can do to further the Kingdom of God? What is your mustard seed or yeast? Do these things have small but eternal value? Does this parable provide an example for you to follow in seeking the eternal things of His Kingdom, even if they're small?

Pray

Choose one or two particular applications from this passage and prayerfully consider how you might pursue God's Kingdom first? How can you pray for one another in these areas this week?