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Kingdom Thinking

Matthew 13:31-35 ³¹He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³²Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” ³³He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.” ³⁴Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. ³⁵So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: “I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.” (NIV)

- I. Here are the details of these two parables.
 - A. The Kingdom of Heaven is like a very small seed that becomes a very large _____ that even birds perch in its branches.
 - B. The Kingdom of Heaven is like a very small bit of _____ that is able to work through a large amount of dough to allow it to become bread.
- II. What are the Kingdom principles that we learn from these parables?
 - A. It is easy to overlook the importance of a kingdom _____ to our lives and to the health of our community.
 - B. There is a temptation to have “_____” mentality instead of kingdom mentality.
- III. How do the three types of bad soil figure into the implementation of the _____ of this parable?
 - A. If a person has a hard heart it will be nearly impossible to _____ that these parables are just talking about plants and bread making.
 - B. If there are competing beliefs in a person’s heart it will be hard to _____ the importance of becoming soul winners. This person will never get beyond the idea that they are “forcing their religion” on anyone else.
 - C. If the cares of this world consume a person then they will never be willing to _____ planting seeds or kneading yeast into their community, work place, or personal relationships.