

The smallest seed becomes the biggest shrub



11th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Gospel

Mk 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.



What is God's Kingdom like?

Jesus described the Kingdom of God as being like a mustard seed - the smallest of seeds! - but once planted, it grows into the biggest of shrubs. What do you imagine the Kingdom of God to be like? Write or draw your answers

Jesus used parables to help explain his teachings to people. Draw a picture from any one of the following parables...



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