

- Overview of Mark 4 Parables:
 - ✓ how to **HEAR** the Word (4:1-20: the sower)
 - ✓ how to **PROCLAIM** the Word (4:21-23: the lamp)
 - ✓ how to **GROW** in the Word (4:24-25: the measure)
 - ✓ the **INHERENT POWER** of the Word (4:26-29: the seed’s growth)
 - ✓ **the UNSTOPPABLE GROWTH of the Word (4:30-34)**

THESIS — My sermon is more of a *Puritan*-style message. We will examine this section in a two-fold way: the Doctrine and then the Duty. Or, put another way: we'll see the Exposition and then the Application.

I. The EXPOSITION (30-34)

1. The kingdom of God (30)

2. The mustard seed which grows (31-32)

The growth...

- is **SUPERNATURAL** - a God-worked
- is **UNSTOPPABLE** - cannot be stopped
- is **SPIRITUAL** – primarily internal
- is **VISIBLE** - has great growth even in physical kingdom
- is **MULTI-NATIONAL** – many nations (Jew + Gentile)

3. Jesus speaks in parables and explains them privately to His disciples (33-34)

II. The APPLICATION:

1. Ensure that you’re in the Kingdom of God spiritually by faith.

Mark 4:30-34 — “The Unstoppable, Supernatural & Irrefutable Growth of God’s Kingdom!”

In order to see God’s church grow, we should use the means God has given to us... Preaching the Gospel is the normal way God grows His church. Added to this there is also prayer. Again and again in the book of Acts we find the early Christians in prayer. And as we beseech God for conversion and for maturity, we find God granting our prayers. The more we pray the more we acknowledge that God is the reason for any growth that comes. We acknowledge, in humility, that any growth that comes does not ultimately

come from us.

— Mark Dever

PRAYER MEETING

1. **Adoration**: Praise, Worship Christ for His Kingship & Sovereignty.

JESUS SHALL REIGN

*Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.*

2. **Prayer for CFBC**: Pray through 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

Some ideas:

- *Pray we'd be full of thanksgiving (4)*
- *God's grace given in Christ (4)*
- *we do not lack any essential gift (7a)*
- *we are awaiting the revelation of Christ (7b)*
- *he will confirm/preserve/keep/protect us till the end (8)*
- *God is faithful & called us into fellowship with Jesus (9)*

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns, As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

3. **Small Group Prayer**: Pray together briefly as a group & present your requests to God.

REJOICE THE LORD IS KING

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up To their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

SONGS

COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King
 He the theme of heaven’s praises, robed in frail humanity
 In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come
 Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, he the perfect Son of Man
 In his living, in his suffering, never trace nor stain of sin
 See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man
 Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree
 In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory
 See the price of our redemption, see the Father’s plan unfold
 Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life
 But no grave could e’er restrain him, praise the Lord, He is alive
 What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
 Christ in power resurrected, as will we be when he comes.

THE SONG OF THE MUSTARD SEED

Tune: “How sweet & awful is the place” or “Amazing grace”

Oh, once there was a mustard seed Almost too small to see.
 I planted it and watched it grow Into a spreading tree.

The tree became a home for birds; The branches held their nests.
 The birds they came from miles around to find a place to rest.

How can we live our lives today to be the mustard seed?
 We’ll share God’s love with all we meet and help the ones in need.

Oh, once there was a mustard seed Almost too small to see.
 We tell the tale so we will know God’s kingdom still to be.