



1. Be _____ (vv.18, 20)

Luke 13:18 He said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? **19** It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches." **20** And again he said, "To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? **21** It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened." (ESV)

2. Be _____ (v.19)

3. Never _____ (v.21)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Romans 11:33**. Why is this an important affirmation to make in our consideration of how God is going about growing his kingdom?
2. Read **Romans 1:1-6**. Why is studying the Old Testament prophetic material regarding Christ's first coming so helpful when seeking to cultivate a biblical optimism about the promised coming kingdom of God? What can you do to strengthen your confidence in biblical prophecy?
3. Read **Proverbs 19:21** and **21:30-31**. How do these principles affect your thinking about the world in which we live and our efforts to stand up for what is right?
4. Read **Romans 8:28** and **Genesis 50:20**. What does the Genesis verse (and its associated story) do to keep you from oversimplifying the Romans verse?
5. Read **2 Corinthians 6:2-10**. How can and should this passage embolden us as Christians to confidently seek to advance the kingdom message of repentance and salvation this week?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

May 22nd

1Chr.6-7 & Jn.8:21-36

May 23rd

1Chr.8-10 & Jn.8:37-59

May 24th

1Chr.11-13 & Jn.9:1-23

May 25th

1Chr.14-16 & Jn.9:24-41

May 26th

1Chr.17-19 & Jn.10:1-21

May 27th

1Chr.20-22 & Jn.10:22-42

May 28th

1Chr.23-25 & Jn.11:1-17

May 29th

1Chr.26-27 & Jn.11:18-46

The following related sermons are also available for free as mp3 downloads or audio streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).

Msg. 12-03 – **The Encouragement of Being a Part of God's Plan**

Msg. 05-30 – **Grappling with Doubts by Revisiting God's Imprimatur on the Truth**

Msg. 10-30 – **Modern Israel and Our Jewish Messiah**

Msg. 10-31 – **Looking to the End as a Humble Gentile**

Msg. 08-59 – **The Theodicy of God** (a study on God's goodness & the existence of evil)

Msg. 06-26 – 06-29 – **When God Makes a Promise** (a four-part series)

Msg. 10-22 – 10-25 – **God's Work in Evangelism** (a 4-part series on God's Sovereignty)

This Week's Social Media Hashtag

#EveryChristianLife

For users of Twitter, Facebook, or other social media sites for the grouping of sermon quotes, helpful insights, or your sharable applications drawn from today's sermon.

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Brown, Michael L. **Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus**. 5 volumes. Baker Books, 2000.

Carson, D. A. **Divine Sovereignty & Human Responsibility**. Baker, 1981.

Coleman, Robert E. **The Master Plan of Evangelism**. Spire Books, 1963.

House, Wayne and Randal Price. **Charts of Bible Prophecy**. Zondervan, 2002.

Lewis, C. S. **The Problem of Pain**. B & H., 2000.

Lockyer, Herbert. **All the Promises of the Bible: A Compilation & Exposition of Divine Promises**. Zondervan, 1962.

Mandryk, Jason. **Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation. Seventh Edition**. Biblica Publishing, 2010.

McClain, Alva J. **The Greatness of the Kingdom: An Inductive Study of the Kingdom of God**. BMH Books, 1959.

Packer, J. I. **Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God**. InterVarsity Press, 1991.

Payne, J. Barton. **Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy: Scriptural Predictions and their Fulfillment**. Baker Books, 1980.

Pink, A. W. **The Sovereignty of God**. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 2009.

Spraggett, Daphne & Jill Johnstone. **Windows on the World: Prayer Atlas for Children**. Authentic, 2007.

Tucker, Ruth. **From Jerusalem to Irian Jaya: A Biographical History of Christian Missions**. Zondervan, 2004.

Varner, William. **The Messiah: Revealed, Rejected, Received**. Author House, 2004.

Wilson, Douglas. **Easy Chairs, Hard Words: Conversations on the Liberty of God**. Canon Press, 1991.