

Lesson 9 (7/26): Matthew 13:31-32, 44-52 — The Kingdom of Heaven: Growth, Treasure, and Wisdom

Scripture Focus

Through several brief parables, Jesus teaches that God's Kingdom often begins small, possesses incomparable value, and calls for wise response.

Read the verse(s) aloud

Memorable quotes/notes:

Historical / Linguistic Context

- The mustard seed was proverbially tiny yet produced a surprisingly large plant.
- Hidden treasure and valuable pearls represented life-changing discoveries worth sacrificing everything else to obtain.
- The fishing net illustrates God's future gathering and judgment.
- The "teacher of the law" who becomes a disciple combines old understanding with new insight, drawing from both.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do people sometimes overlook things that start small?
2. What do the treasure and pearl parables teach about priorities?
3. How do we determine whether we truly value God's Kingdom above competing priorities?
4. What "old treasures" and "new treasures" of faith have shaped your spiritual journey?
5. The Kingdom's value is not measured by what it costs us, but by what it offers us. What difference does that perspective make when considering sacrifice or stewardship?

CLOSING PRAYER