

“WHEN WILL THIS ‘KINGDOM’ COME?” Based on Mark 4:26-34

- Quote from Gov. Bradford in Of Plimouth Plantation: “Out of small beginnings greater things have been produced by His hand that made all things from nothing, So the light here kindled has shone unto many, in some sort to our whole nation.”
- Text speaks of small beginnings and great results. Kingdom of God compared to tiniest seed, but grows into great bush. Parallels story of Jesus himself. Small, insignificant things – mustard seed, cup of cold water, a talent, the widow’s mite, lost coin become vehicles of great message. Not because of human effort, but God’s work.
- Parable tells us 2 things:
 - (1) Kingdom begins with little things – kind words, helpful actions. Michelangelo’s story of “trifles”. Battle of the Bulge- small, one-man stands slowed the Nazi advance. Jones described battles. We are called to keep the ball rolling with God-Kingdom words and acts.
 - (2) Kingdom will come in God’s own time. God gives the growth, like my vegetable garden, seed matures in God’s time, not mine. God is the creator.
- Another aspect of Kingdom: we are promised glimpses. Not yet a reality, but we experience God’s presence - its joy, peace, love and kindness in our present life – the Baptism of today, Holy Communion, our Christian fellowship. God gives us a sweet taste of God’s Kingdom as small reassurances to keep us moving toward the ultimate reality, which will come in due time. In the meantime, we are called to do the little things that will bring great results.

May the peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our lord. Amen.