



## The Power of a Single Seed

June 25, 2023

**Speaker:** Pastor Dr. Mark Batterson

**Scripture:** Mark 4:1-32; Genesis 1:3,11; Galatians 6:9

**Sermon Overview:** Faith is an orthodox seed that stands the test of time—it does not die; it returns as God designed. When we plant mustard seeds of faith, we never know *when* or *how* they will take root and bear fruit. As we remain faithful to plant seeds and celebrate their potential growth, we can expect that God will bring a harvest in His timing. We are responsible for the input, and God controls the outcome.

### Sermon Series Question:

1. Who do you say that Jesus is? How does your answer match how you live your life?

### Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. The parable in Mark 4:1-20 explains the different types of soil that a seed can be sown and the outcomes. After reading this passage, ask yourself: What kind of soil am I? What kind of harvest is God producing in my life? Where are you planted? What type of prayers have you been praying in the place where you live, work, and play? These prayers are seeds of faith. How can you cultivate these gardens? Find a promise from God that you can pray in each of these contexts and pray them this week.
2. Galatians 6:8-9 says not to be weary in well-doing because if in due time, we will reap what we have sown. In faithfulness and obedience, we steward the job of planting seeds even though we don't know *how* they will grow or *when* we will see the harvest. What mountains are you believing God will move? In what areas of your life have you been waiting for a breakthrough? How long have you been waiting?

3. A grown mustard tree not only bears its fruit of mustard, but it has the unexpected benefit of giving shade to birds. What are some unexpected benefits that you have seen from prayers prayed long ago?

### **Digging Deeper:**

1. Read Ephesians 3:20-21 to increase your expectancy of what God can do. In your quiet time, let your heart dream with God for a vision of the harvest He wants to do *in* and *through* you. Start planting.
2. Compare Genesis 1:11, Mark 4:26-27, and Galatians 6:7. God says the seeds bear fruit according to their kinds. Examine your life. What kinds of fruit is your life bearing? How can you uproot the plants that are not producing Kingdom fruit and instead plant Kingdom seeds? What promises from God can you plant?

### **Practical Application:**

- **What is your mission field?** Is it where you work, live, or play? Pick a focus and sign up for the 40-day prayer walk challenge by texting the word “Walk” to 844-504-0861 or going to [www.ncc.re/prayerwalk](http://www.ncc.re/prayerwalk)
- **Consider this prayer during your quiet time or on your walk this week:** God, whether I see the mountains moving or not, I will continue to plant seeds with faith in what You can do. I will not become weary in doing good, but my faith expects a harvest in Your timing and Your way. Lord, would you give me the patience, vision, and faith to plant seeds and believe that the best is yet to come? I give You praise and marvel at what You will do with my sown seeds of faith.
- **Download the NCC app** or visit [ncc.re/daily](http://ncc.re/daily) to listen to short, daily teachings M-F accompanying this series.
- **Make a Bible reading plan** and/or gratitude journal a daily discipline and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the NCC app to find our plan).
- **Join a group** this summer!!! Check them out at <https://national.cc/groups>