

beyond your current **mind**



Part 6 - Looking Deeper

During a season where we've lost a lot of the big and flashy events and activities in our lives, we have an opportunity to accept Jesus' invitation to look for God in small, quiet, and deeper places.

Scripture: Mark 4:21-32, 35-41

Discussion Questions

1. Are there any big and flashy events or activities that you miss being able to go to right now (sporting events, festivals, concerts, etc.)? What are they? How do those kinds of things make you feel when you attend? While big and flashy things are a lot of fun (and can be very meaningful), Jesus taught that God also works in small and almost unnoticeable ways.
2. Jesus uses a lot of parables about seeds and plants (see Mark 4:26-29 and others). It's springtime and we see things growing all around us. Are there any observations that you can make from nature that help to understand these parables and why Jesus used this imagery? Are there any experiences you've had recently in nature that have helped you understand these things?
3. Read Mark 4:30-34. What does this parable tell us about how God works? What can you say about the symbol of a large plant with big branches and birds perching (See Daniel 4, Psalm 104 and Ezekiel 31 for some ideas). What does this tell us about the Kingdom of God?
4. Why does Jesus speak in parables like this? What do you think would be some of the different reactions from people in the crowd when Jesus taught these things?

Moving Forward

What are some of the ways that we see God working through small beginnings in Jesus' ministry, our own lives, and in the lives of others?