



Community Group Study Guide 02.20.2011

Mark 4:30-41 Faith and Growth

Thesis- In God's Kingdom, faith and growth go hand in hand.

Outline:

A. Kingdom Principles (30-34)

1. Fear limits growth
2. Faith causes exponential growth...
3. Faith causes shared blessing-

B. Kingdom Principles Applied (35-41)

Three reasons why the disciples should not have been afraid:

1. Jesus promised to take them to the other side
2. Jesus is with you in the boat.
3. Jesus is completely calm in the storm

1. What are some of our most common fears? How many decisions do we make based on fear? What if faith, not fear was the default reaction to all threats? What would be different?

Read Mark 4:30-41.

This passage describes the **kingdom of God**. It refers to a tiny seed that is able to grow and bless others...*"if you have faith the size of a mustard seed..."* (Matt. 17:20).

2. A little seed of faith is enough. Faith is not a great task, but a quiet confidence in the power of God. What are some things we trust God for? How can our faith inspire and bless others?

3. After the "classroom" teaching on faith, Jesus invites the disciples into a boat...headed for a storm. How is life like living in a boat (*Risk; Dependence*)? Reread the three reasons why the disciples should not have been afraid. Do you believe that Jesus is with you in your boat? Do you ever doubt His goodness?

4. The greatest evidence of the reality of God is when Christians stay calm in the midst of storms. The people watching your life will see the reality of God in you. It causes Kingdom growth.

So, how can you and I increase our faith? (Mark 9:24; Romans 10:17).