



SERMON STUDY - 8.24.2025

Leader Corner

Mark 4:30-32

Main Idea:

The Kingdom of God starts small, grows through ordinary people, and becomes a wide-reaching refuge for the world. Eastview's 70-year story mirrors Jesus' parable of the mustard seed—God grows His Kingdom through the faithful obedience of His people.

Main Passage:

Mark 4:30–32 – The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Main Formational Practice:

Celebration of God's Faithfulness – Remembering and praising God for His past work, recognizing His present movement, and committing to His future call.

Connect with Prayer & Praise

Opening Praise:

Invite the group to share a favorite moment or memory they've had at Eastview or through their faith journey. Celebrate together God's goodness in those stories.

Prayer Prompts:

- Praise God for His faithfulness to Eastview over 70 years.
- Thank God for the ordinary people who helped build the church.
- Ask God to reveal where He's calling each of you to plant new mustard seeds.
- Pray for continued fruitfulness in Eastview's ministry—local, national, and global.

with Practice

Spiritual Practice: "Legacy Tree" Experience**Supplies Needed:**

- A large poster board or butcher paper with a simple tree drawn on it (trunk and branches).
- Small green sticky notes or paper "leaves."
- Pens or markers.

Each person writes on a leaf:

- A way they've experienced God's faithfulness (past),
- How they see God moving in their life now (present), or
- A prayer for what God might do through them or the church in the future (future).

Attach the leaves to the tree as a visual symbol of the ongoing growth of God's Kingdom.

Afterward, close with a prayer of commitment:

Invite each person to pray aloud or silently as they place their leaf—thanking God for His faithfulness and asking Him for courage to live out their calling.

with Principle

Opening Scripture Reading:

Read Mark 4:30–32 together

“What shall we say the kingdom of God is like... It is like a mustard seed...”

1. Small Beginnings: Why do you think Jesus chose a mustard seed to represent the Kingdom of God?

- What does this tell you about how God works through humble beginnings?

Supplemental: Zechariah 4:10 – “Do not despise these small beginnings...”

2. Eastview’s Story: How does Eastview’s 70-year history reflect the parable of the mustard seed?

- How have you personally been impacted by this church or by someone faithful within it?

Supplemental: Psalm 145:4 – “One generation commends your works to another...”

3. Unstoppable Growth: What do you learn about God’s Kingdom when Jesus says it grows into “the largest of all garden plants?”

- In what ways is God’s Kingdom still growing today—in our lives, community, and world?

Supplemental: Acts 1:8 – “You will be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth.”

4. A Place of Shade: What does it mean for the Kingdom to provide “shade” where the birds perch?

- How can our church be a place of rest, belonging, and healing for others?

Supplemental: Matthew 11:28–30 – “Come to me, all you who are weary...”

5. Ordinary People, Extraordinary Impact: How does God use ordinary people to spread His Kingdom?

- What gifts, roles, or relationships might God be asking you to invest in now?

Supplemental: 1 Corinthians 1:26–29 – God chooses the weak and lowly...

6. The Charge Forward: What does it mean for you personally to continue the legacy of faithfulness?

- What’s one mustard seed God might be calling you to plant in the coming year?

Supplemental: Colossians 2:6–7 – “Continue to live your lives in him...”

Closing Encouragement

“The story of Eastview isn’t about buildings—it’s about people. Ordinary people with mustard seed faith, trusting an extraordinary God.”

Challenge each participant to:

- Reflect on their spiritual heritage,
- Live fully present in their faith today,
- Commit to planting seeds that will bear fruit for future generations.