



Parables & Pictures

Mark 4:21-34

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WARM-UP QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever arrived someplace and forgotten how you got there? Or, have you ever been doing something and forgotten why you were doing it?
2. Why do you think that happened?

THE PRIORITY OF THE KINGDOM 4:21-25

1. Put the following into your own words:
 - Listening is done with the ears. Hearing is done with the heart.
 - Seeing is done with the eyes. Paying attention is done with the mind.
2. In what way might the truths of these statements be interconnected?
3. How might applying the truths of these statements help you to give God's kingdom greater priority in your life?

THE POWER OF THE KINGDOM 4:26-29

1. What does this parable help you to understand about God's kingdom?
2. Who, or what, is the power behind God's kingdom?
3. Do you ever wonder if what you are doing is making a difference?
4. How might "hearing" and "paying attention" to this truth (question #2) be helpful for you?

THE POTENTIAL OF THE KINGDOM 4:30-32

1. What does this parable help you to understand about God's kingdom?
2. What is the potential of God's kingdom? Why?
3. How might "hearing" and "paying attention" to this truth (question #2) be helpful for you?

THE PEOPLE OF THE KINGDOM 4:33,34

1. What distinction does Mark make between those Jesus spoke to and those Jesus taught?
2. What might this distinction mean to you personally?

PROCESSING ALL THAT...

1. These days, how are you doing at hearing Jesus?
2. These days, how are you doing at paying attention to Jesus?
3. These days, what might you do to increase your "hearing" and "paying attention" to Jesus?