

## **Encounter Series Devotional, Week 4 | Day 4**

Jesus said, "How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it? It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches, and birds can make nests in its shade."

Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand. In fact, in his public ministry he never taught without using parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

## Mark 4:30-34

At The Ridge, our mission is to help people find and follow Jesus. As you read the next portion of this devotional, consider the FIND comments if you are exploring faith or helping others explore their faith. Use the FOLLOW section to help you take steps if you are currently following Jesus.

## FIND:

Jesus uses a parable to explain how He came into the world unnoticed and rejected, like a small seed. Yet, He ends up being the Savior of the world and drawing others to Himself, like a tree that produces shade. What keeps you from accepting this?

## **FOLLOW:**

Who can you have mentor you so you grow in your relationship with Jesus?