

Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 12, Day 1

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for another Re.Mark.Able story. Please help me to study the verses below this week and gain knowledge about each of the three stories and to apply them to my life. Help me to also share my understanding of Your Word with others and help to spread the gospel to the people in my life who need to hear it.

As you read the verses below, answer the following questions and then compare your answers with those that follow.

Who is in the text?  
What is happening in the text?  
When does the story take place?  
Where does the story take place?  
Why is this story in the Bible?  
How does this story relate to me and my life?

**Mark 4:21-34 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**21** Also He said to them, "Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be set on a lampstand? **22** For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light. **23** If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

**24** Then He said to them, "Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. **25** For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him."

**26** And He said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, **27** and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. **28** For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. **29** But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

**30** Then He said, "To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? **31** It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; **32** but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade."

**33** *And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it.*

**34** *But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples.*

Who: Jesus, disciples, man

What: Jesus used three parables to teach us about the need for the gospel to go forward.

When: The concept of time is discussed as it takes time for God to accomplish His will in our lives and it takes patience for us to grow in Him.

Where: There is no indication of where these three parables are taught.

Why: After we receive Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are called to share the gospel with others and to bear fruit.

How: (This answer should be personal to each individual.)

Prayer: *"NOW THE ONE WHO PROVIDES SEED FOR THE SOWER AND BREAD FOR FOOD WILL PROVIDE AND MULTIPLY YOUR SEED AND INCREASE THE HARVEST OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." 2 Corinthians 9:10*

*THE DOUBLE UP PRAYER:  
DOUBLE THE REACH IN RIVER VALLEY  
DOUBLE THE REACH IN NICARAGUA  
DOUBLE THE GROWTH IN OUR LIVES  
DOUBLE THE GROWTH IN OUR GIVING*

Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 12, Day 2

Prayer: Heavenly Father, please help me to learn to shine my light for all to see. Help me to never hide my belief in your message of everlasting life through Christ Jesus.

**Mark 4:21-22** *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**21** *Also He said to them, "Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be set on a lampstand? **22** For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light.*

It is important that the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ go forward. After we are called into a relationship with Jesus Christ, we are to shine His light into the lives of others in hopes that they too find the light of Jesus Christ.

Sometimes believers hide their light instead of putting it on display. There are many reasons for hiding our light. Can you relate to any of the situations below?

Complacency- I am already doing enough for the kingdom. I don't need to do anything else.

Resentment- Why should I have to put myself out there for others to possibly judge and ridicule me.

Embarrassment- What will they think of me if I talk to them about God and our need for a relationship with Him?

Stubbornness of heart- I want to shine my light my own way and not be told how to do it.

Disobedience- I am too busy to do what God is calling me to do.

Does your life show other people how to find God and how to live for Him or do you use the reasons above to keep you from shining your light?

If the message that we can have salvation through Jesus Christ is to go forward, we are each called to do our part in it.

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Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 12, Day 3

Prayer: Lord, please show me today the areas that I need to focus on to be able to hear and understand the message you have for me. Help me to develop a plan of the measure I will use.

**Mark 4:23-25 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**23** *If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."*

**24** *Then He said to them, "Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. 25 For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him."*

These verses are about action. God demands that we take action. Faith is acting upon what God says. When we are new believers the truth is revealed to us but we are only able to hear a small portion of it. This means that at first our actions may be small as well. However, the more we look to God and seek His counsel, the more He will reveal to us. Spiritual truth is clearly given to us but our ability to hear it is clouded. As we grow in God, the truth is revealed to us and we are able to truly hear it. As we are able to hear more from God, we will be able to fulfill His call to action in our lives.

At River Valley the action we are choosing is to double up. We want to take action to allow twice the number of people to be reached in Bastrop and in Nicaragua. We also are calling ourselves into action that will enable us to grow twice as much spiritually and double the growth in our giving.

What actions have you taken to help us to reach twice the number of people in River Valley?

What actions have you taken to help double the reach in Nicaragua?

What actions have you taken to double your spiritual growth?

What actions have you taken to double your growth in giving?

As you say the prayer verse and say the double up prayer, ask God to show you have you can get better in the areas above that you are struggling with.

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Re.Mark.Able Study  
Week 12, Day 4

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help me to seek your guidance and patience when it comes to the planting and harvesting of the seeds you would have me to focus on. Help me to rely upon you to show me how to grow in all areas of my life.

**Mark 4:26-29 New King James Version (NKJV)**

**26** And He said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, **27** and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. **28** For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. **29** But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

As much as we would like for them to, most things do not just happen overnight. If you have ever grown any type of plant you know that it can take a lot of work on the forefront and then some serious patience afterward. We have to get the ground ready and the seeds planted just right and then we wait...and then, we wait some more. Sometimes we wait so long we forget what we planted and stop even checking for growth. Even though it is slow and most often not initially seen, growth is happening. If we fail to keep checking for growth and watering the soil, we will never see our plants grow to their full potential. It is the same with us. Take a moment right now to look back on your life. How much have you grown spiritually in the last five to ten years? What effort have you put into your spiritual growth. How many times are we so busy in the process that we forget to look at the progress?

Our River Valley planting is even harder to see actual growth. We have been giving toward the campaign for months now with only a stack of bricks on the stage and a few pictures on the wall to show our progress. That does not mean that serious growth has not been taking place. Just like a plant needs good, strong roots, River Valley needs a firm foundation and plan in place before we are able to see physical progress. We also need to be growing our selves and looking within to see what God would have us to do to help with the Double Up Campaign.

Again, as you pray through the verse and Double Up prayer, ask God to reveal to you how you can help River Valley in our Double Up Mission.

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Re.Mark.Able Study

Week 12, Day 5

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for another week of study to help me to grow spiritually and to help me to discover how to double my impact in our four areas of focus at River Valley.

**Mark 4:30-34***New King James Version (NKJV)*

**30** Then He said, "To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? **31** It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; **32** but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade." **33** And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it. **34** But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples.

The mustard seed is great proof that God can do great things with the smallest of beginnings. This parable illustrates the power of the Word of God working in our lives. If we allow God to do His work in us, He can grow us exponentially. Again, we will not see the spiritual growth overnight but after looking back on the last several years of our lives, we should be able to see substantial growth. If you do not see the growth you want, you may need to pray about these questions: How do you want God to grow you spiritually? How do you want to help RV grow? What do you need to do to plant the seed you need God to grow? What is your plan for spiritual growth?

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