



Introduction

Jesus points out various ways we can react to his message in the parable of the sower. He shows how we should put faith into action in our lives.



The Sea of Galilee where Jesus taught (v 1, see map).



Questions

1. In the first parable, what does the seed represent?
2. What sort of people is represented by the seed sown among thorns?
3. What was the disciples' problem with the storm, and what, did Jesus say, had caused them to feel that way?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 20** A parable (story illustrating a lesson) showing different ways we can react to the message about the coming Kingdom of God (see theme)
 - The farmer sows seed in his field
 - The seeds fall into different types of earth, representing different responses from people
 - The message is that we should listen to God's word and respond to it
- **v 21 to 34** More parables showing different aspects of the message of the Kingdom of God (see theme)
 - v 21 to 29 The message of the Kingdom of God cannot be hidden and should be listened to
 - v 30 to 34 The message of the Kingdom is like a small seed that develops into something as big as a tree
- **v 35 to 41** Jesus stills a raging sea and questions the disciples' lack of faith

Timeline AD 30 (see below)



Theme

The Kingdom of God in the New Testament (1)

The Jews in Jesus' time know what the Old Testament prophets have said about the Kingdom of God. Assuming that knowledge, Jesus Christ makes many comments and gives parables showing different aspects of the Kingdom of God.

Only those who respect God and do what he says will be in the Kingdom of God:

Matthew 21 verses 28 to 31

It is difficult for those who trust in riches to be part of the Kingdom of God:

Mark 10 verse 24



Week 2 Day 4 Mark 4 Understand your Bible reading plan

God's purpose to establish his Kingdom on earth starts insignificantly, and we don't know how God is working, but it eventually becomes very obvious:

Mark 4 verses 26 to 29

Jesus gives a parable illustrating that the message of God's coming Kingdom is of more value than anything else:

Matthew 13 verse 44

The parable of the dragnet teaches that not all who hear the message of the Kingdom of God will have a place in it:

Matthew 13 verses 47 to 49

Jesus says that just as young children trust their parents, so we must trust God's message about the coming Kingdom:

Mark 10 verse 15

Jesus tells his disciples that those who reject the message have had the Kingdom near to them:

Luke 10 verses 10 and 11

After his resurrection, Jesus continues to talk about the coming Kingdom to his disciples:

Acts 1 verse 3

The Acts record tells us that the apostle Paul uses the Old Testament to tell his hearers about the Kingdom of God:

Acts 28 verse 23

Israel in New Testament times

Map of northern Israel in New Testament times indicating the Sea of Galilee





Questions & Answers

Verses which answer the questions:

Q1: v 14, Q2: v 18 and 19, Q3: v 40

Bible timeline

