

Seed Growing Secretly (Mark 4:26-29)

Key characters and elements:

- **Sower/Farmer** (man who scatters the seed). Represents all of us who share the gospel/God's Word with others.
- **Seed.** Represents the gospel/God's Word
- **Grain.** Represents people who have been saved.
- **God.** He causes the seed to grow and become ripe grain for the harvest.

Background:

A man scatters seed on the ground. Without human effort the seed becomes grain and ripens to maturity, then is harvested by the man.

The Parable conveys confidence and comfort by assuring the audience that the Kingdom of God will find fulfillment in God's time. Also reminds us that fulfillment is inevitable and does not rely on mere human effort.

Key Learnings:

- The growth of God's kingdom is the result of divine power, not human effort. God gives us the privilege to share His word in the front end and be there for the harvest in the back end.
- Our job is to plant seeds (share the Word of God); God's job is to take the seed and make it grow. We plant seeds and leave the growth to God. We should not be discouraged if we don't see immediate results. **WE SOW THE SEED; GOD CAUSES THE GROWING AND ULTIMATE HARVEST.**
- Teaches the principle of sequence: harvesting follows sowing in due time. The manifestation of God's kingdom follows the faithful ministry of God's word.

Other Relevant Scriptures:

Philippians 1:6 (God will complete what He starts)

James 5:7 (we should be patient for the harvest)

Galatians 6:9-10 (don't grow weary in doing good; eventually we will reap a harvest if we don't give up)

Parable of the Mustard Seed