

STORIES THAT DRAW US DEEPER

Discussion Questions

May 31, 2026

Mustard Seeds and Yeast

1. Take some time to share how you experienced the centering or walking practice from last week. How did it impact your daily life and where did it lead you?
2. What impacted you most during the service as a whole this past Sunday (including the potluck)? How would you describe what you experienced? In what ways did you experience encouragement and in what ways discomfort?
3. Read the parable of the mustard seed in Matthew 13:31-32. It's a short parable, so pay attention to every word. Discuss what you think the parable means and how it could apply to you.
4. The mustard plant was considered an invasive agricultural weed by farmers in first-century Palestine. How might this impact the interpretation this parable?
5. Read the parable of the yeast in Matthew 13:33. This is also a very short parable, so pay attention to every word. Discuss what you think the parable means and how it could apply to you.
6. The word for "mixed" in this parable means "hidden". How could the woman "hiding" yeast in the flour affect the parable's meaning? How might this apply to us?
7. Jesus may be alluding to a story in the Hebrew Scriptures where another woman uses "three measures" of flour. Read the story in Genesis 18:1-15 and discuss why Jesus might have wanted to remind people of this by telling the parable. How could this affect our interpretation of it?
8. Take a moment to share one "small thing" in which you sense God is encouraging you to remain faithful. Then spend some time praying for one another.

Prayer Practice for the week:

Make a concerted effort this week to look out for opportunities to do "small things". Be especially conscious of opportunities for kind words and kind actions. Likewise, be aware of moments when you feel tempted to make negative comments or behave dismissively. In all these moments celebrate that you can embody God's love.