

MUSTARD SEED

MATTHEW 13:31-32, 45-50

Do you like to tell stories? Jesus told stories, but stories with a lesson. They are called Parables. Jesus told these stories to his disciples and to other people who came to listen. In Matthew chapter 13 in the Bible, Jesus told them a parable about a mustard seed. It is the smallest of seeds but when it is planted it becomes a very large bush. So it is with our trust in God. First it seems very small. But if we are truly God's children our faith will grow stronger and greater until we trust Him more and more and try to please Him in everything we do.

Jesus also told the people about a jeweller looking for pearls to buy at a bargain. He went to everybody that had any to sell. At last he found a pearl that was larger and more beautiful than anything he had ever seen before. But although it was priced at less than its real value, he still did not have nearly enough money to buy it. So he sold everything he owned and came back and bought that one precious pearl.

This is the way people feel who want their sins forgiven. They cannot be happy until it is done. They are willing to give up every single pleasure and everything that offends God so that they may come to Him and ask Him to forgive their sins.

Then Jesus talked about fishermen and their nets. The fisherman takes his net out of his boat and throws it into the water and then he pulls it slowly dragging it to shore. He finds many different kinds of fish in it. Some are good to eat and some are not. The good ones are gathered into baskets to keep. Those that are not good are thrown away. Jesus told his disciples that it would be like that at the end of the age. Angels will come and separate the good people from the bad and send away the bad people to be punished. Jesus also told His disciples: "come along with me and I will show you how to become fishers of men's souls. Jesus meant that they could tell others about Him so that they could be saved from their sins.

Do you have Jesus Christ in your heart and life as your Saviour and Lord? Do you follow Him? That is, live the way that Jesus wants you to live? If you do, then you can also tell your friends how Jesus died on the cross to take away their sins and how they can ask Jesus to come and live in their hearts too.

Take time to read today's story in your Bible in Matthew chapter 13 verses 31 and 32 and then in verses 45 to 50.