

"It's like a mustard seed" Mark chapter 4 verse 31

Do you wish you had more faith? Do you wish you had faith at all? Jesus's answer is right here. The way to get faith to grow is to exercise it.

Faith is like a seed, he says. And he uses this example of a mustard seed, which is the smallest of seeds. But it is when it is sown on the ground that it grows and becomes a plant so large that birds can nest in it.

So if we have no faith, we sow a mustard seed when we begin to seek God. You may say, "But I don't believe in God", or "I don't even know if God exists." But if he does exist, then he exists whether or not you believe in him, so surely it's worth having a look, and perhaps asking him to guide you towards him. As the Psalmist says, "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

And if we believe, but feel that our faith is only very small, let's begin to use what we have. Let's start looking at what the Bible says about God, about ourselves, about life and the world in which we live, and let's begin to make that our source of what the truth is about these things. Then we can begin to speak these things into our lives and into the world around us.

How will that work? Jesus also says that the kingdom of God is like a man scattering seed on the ground. Then he goes about his life day by day, and the seed sprouts and grows, although he has no knowledge of how it happens. That's how it is with faith. God brings about its growth, and we harvest its fruit. "In the morning sow your seed," says the writer of the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes, "and at the evening do not let your hand rest, because you don't know which will succeed, whether one or the other, or if both of them will be equally good."

We sow the seed of God's word and good work in our lives and in the world in faith, leaving the outcome to God.

Prayer

Father, I don't pretend to be able to know all the complexities of life, even my own. All I can hope to do is to live and speak your word and your truth into my own life and into the world around me, believing that you will bring about the purpose that you have for it. Please help me to absorb and pass on what comes from your word and your Spirit, so that my life will be fruitful. In Jesus' name, amen.

All these devotionals can be found on our website inghamitechurch.org on the 'Resources' page. Click on the link to go there.