

GRACEPOINT CHURCH

Weekly Devotional

Rooted and Rising: Parables of Growth, Grace and Harvest

The Work we cannot See – Ian France – 20.9.2026

Scripture

Mark 4:26-29

Open your mind and heart as you read the passage of Scripture aloud and then again quietly to yourself. Listen for God's word to you.

Spend some time in worship.

Observation

A farmer who plants seed cannot make it grow. Only God can do that. People cannot see God working, but they can see the results. In the same way, God works through His word invisibly within those who follow Him. No farmer understands exactly how the seed grows, but he knows that it does. The Kingdom of God works the same way as people work in partnership with God, and He does the real work. In this parable, the seed represents the Word of God, and eventually, when the harvest time comes, the crop is plainly visible. Jesus takes a tiny thing, like a seed, and develops it into something glorious.

Icebreaker:

Have you ever met a friend you haven't seen in a long time, or visited a place where there used to be a young tree many years later?

What changes did you see?

How did you know the person/tree you saw was the same one you knew all those years ago?

Application

- What makes you impatient or discouraged in your personal life? And socially? How do you respond to that situation? Does the situation and your response to it colour your day?



THE METHODIST CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
PBO Reg. No. 18/11/13/690

GRACEPOINT METHODIST CHURCH

Tel: 011 702 4600 Emergency no.: 076 498 2088 WhatsApp Connect: 071 892 9382 E-mail: info@gracepoint.co.za
P.O. Box 1408, Lonehill 2062. 125 Duncan Road, Glenferness, 2191

Rev. Ian France, Rev. Linda Magengenene-Moyake
www.gracepoint.co.za



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- *The duty of the sower:* What is your role as a sower of the seed of the Good News? How do you carry out this role today? How can you include God as you sow the seed? How do you feel about the week of prayer that Gracepoint is planning? Will you be part of that program? Why/why not?
- *The mystery of the night:* What prayer have you been praying that has yet to be answered? Do you believe God is working behind the scenes to answer it even when you can't see any progress? Why/why not? How deep is your trust in God's role? Are you willing to let go and trust the Lord with the process? How will that affect you?
- *The Process of Progress:* Where can you see progress in your personal life? Where are you growing? What impact are you having on your family? What about the nation or the world? What positive or negative changes have you seen as we approach 2027? What role can you play in co-creating your personal or social world with God? How does that make you feel?
- *The Certainty of the Harvest:* Read Philippians 1:6 and Ephesians 2:10. How do you feel about being God's handiwork with an undertaking to carry out for God? What do you think this mission is? Is it personal, or does it stretch wider to the nation or the world? Does it excite you or are you concerned about it? How will it change your life as you work on it together with God?
- How can the group help you with the struggles you have mentioned during this session?

Prayer

Pray for one another regarding the issues raised during your discussion time and any other needs of the group.

Service

Where can you scatter seed this week – or take a step towards fulfilling the work God has called you to do? Look for opportunities to be a co-creator with God in His world.

Bibliography

<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/mark-4/>



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