

# small things

Part 4: The Big Story

April 30 & May 1, 2016

Brian Steele, Small Groups Pastor

**Small things,  
done over a long period of time,  
create the greatest impact.**

**In Matthew 13, Jesus compared his huge kingdom to small things:**

- A mustard seed (vs. 31)
- Yeast (vs. 33)
- A pearl (vs. 45)

## **God's Big Story Hinges on Small Things**

But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. – 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

## **Matthew 13:44**

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all he has and buys that field.”

## **What's in the hidden treasure box?**

Big promises for weak, broken, lost people.

- 1) God's covenant with **Abraham** promises a place and population of the kingdom (*Genesis 17:6, 16*)
- 2) God's covenant with **Moses** establishes a law for the kingdom citizens (*Exodus 19:6*)
- 3) God's covenant with **David** enthrones an eternal ruler of the kingdom (*2 Samuel 7:12-16*)
- 4) Jesus' new covenant celebrates today's present kingdom and anticipates the future fulfillment of that kingdom (*Luke 22:14-20*)

## Summary of the Big Story of the Bible

“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of his Lord, and of His Christ, and he shall reign forever.” — Revelation 11:15

### What do you receive when you “sell all” to acquire that small treasure?

Everything.

“And the kingdom and the dominion  
and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven  
shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High;  
his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom,  
and all dominions shall serve and obey him.” – Daniel 7:27

### Next Steps

- Read *The Drama of Scripture* by Craig Bartholomew and Michael Goheen to dive deeper into the kingdom story of the Bible. Then read it again.
- Contact Pastor Brian ([brians@ctk.church](mailto:brians@ctk.church)) if you are interested in finding community in a small group that feels like family in this big church.

### Small Group Questions:

- 1) What is the best treasure you've ever found?
- 2) Have you seen God use somebody who seems weak to make a powerful impact over a long period of time? Tell us about it.
- 3) How could God's kingdom advance in the small, normal circumstances of your life?
- 4) What challenges you the most about the parable of the treasure hidden in the field (Matthew 13:44)?
- 5) In what area(s) of your life does God's rule and reign need to be extended and advanced?
- 6) How can we pray for you this week?