



WEEK TWO: SMALL DOESN'T MEAN WEAK

Hear the story. See the King. Answer the call. Matthew 13:31-33

1. Where are you tempted to believe that God isn't working because the results seem small, slow, or hidden?
2. What quiet work of God can you recognize in your life right now—even though it isn't finished yet?
3. Are you overlooking an ordinary act of obedience because it doesn't seem important or impressive?
4. Who have you become discouraged praying for, encouraging, or sharing the Gospel with? How does this parable challenge you to remain faithful?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Name one small work of grace you've been overlooking, and faithfully participate in it this week. One act of obedience. One quiet step beneath the authority of King Jesus.

Hidden isn't the same as absent.
Slow isn't the same as stopped.
Small isn't the same as weak.



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www.1stFreeWillBaptist.Church/Go-Deeper-Signup

THIS PRAYER GUIDE USES THE **ACTS MODEL OF PRAYER.**

THE ACTS MODEL IS A SIMPLE WAY TO GUIDE OUR PRAYERS AND HELP US PRAY WITH GREATER BALANCE AND PURPOSE. ACTS STANDS FOR...

ADORATION

CONFESSION

THANKSGIVING

SUPPLICATION

WE BEGIN BY PRAISING GOD FOR WHO HE IS,

THEN HONESTLY CONFESS OUR SINS,

THANK HIM FOR HIS GRACE AND BLESSINGS,

AND FINALLY BRING OUR NEEDS AND THE NEEDS OF OTHERS BEFORE HIM.

IT IS NOT INTENDED TO BE A RIGID FORMULA, BUT A HELPFUL PATTERN THAT KEEPS PRAYER CENTERED ON GOD RATHER THAN FOCUSED ONLY ON OUR REQUESTS.





PRAYER GUIDE

WEEK TWO: SMALL DOESN'T MEAN WEAK

Matthew 13:31-33

OPENING REFLECTION

This prayer guide helps you apply the truths from "Small Doesn't Mean Weak." As you pray, remember that God's kingdom often works in ways we cannot see, through means that appear insignificant. Your faithful, small acts of obedience matter deeply to the King.

SECTION 1: ADORATION - RECOGNIZING GOD'S KINGDOM WORK

Scripture Meditation

Read Matthew 13:31-33 slowly. Notice how Jesus describes the kingdom through humble, ordinary images.

Adoration Prompts

- How does Jesus' humility challenge your expectations of power?
- What aspect of God's hidden work deserves your praise today?
- How has God's quiet faithfulness been evident in your own life?

Guided Prayer Template

"Father, I praise You for a kingdom that doesn't depend on what this world finds impressive. You are the King who chose humility over spectacle, a manger over a throne, and a cross over conquest. I worship You for Your patient, hidden work in my life and in the world. Your power is not diminished by smallness. Your presence is not absent because it's unseen. Help me see Your kingdom the way You see it - glorious, powerful, and advancing through the faithful obedience of ordinary people."



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SECTION 2: CONFESSION – RELEASING WORLDLY MEASURES

Confession Prompts

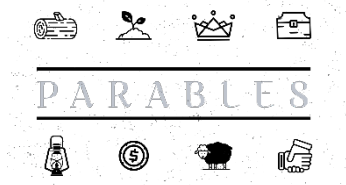
- Where have you judged God's work by worldly standards of size and success?
- Have you dismissed small acts of obedience as insignificant?
- When have you demanded visible results instead of trusting the King?
- Do you struggle to see value in quiet, hidden spiritual work?

Supporting Statement From The Sermon

"We have a habit of confusing visible size with spiritual importance. We assume that if something's big, noticeable, fast, expensive, or popular, it matters more." - Joshua Kennon

Guided Prayer Template

"Lord, I confess that I have often measured Your kingdom by the wrong standards. I've been impressed by numbers, size, and visible results. I've dismissed quiet work as unimportant. I've wanted applause and recognition instead of faithfulness. I've demanded tracking numbers for my prayers instead of trusting Your hidden activity. Forgive me for the times I've overlooked the small work of grace You've placed right in front of me. Help me repent of my shallow measurements of spiritual significance."



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SECTION 3: THANKSGIVING - CELEBRATING HIDDEN WORK

Reflection Questions

- What small, quiet work of grace has God done in your life that you often overlook?
- Who has invested in you through ordinary, faithful obedience?
- How has God worked through hidden means to shape your faith?

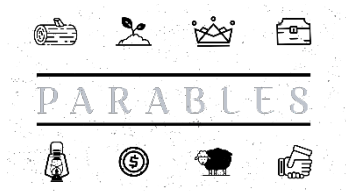
Supporting Statements From The Sermon

"A conversation that seemed forgotten may return to someone's mind during a crisis. A verse taught to a child may be remembered twenty years later. An act of kindness may weaken a person's assumption that Christians don't care." - Joshua Kennon

"Think about the way God has worked in your own life. Did anyone here become a mature Christian overnight? Of course not. God used a sermon here, a conversation there, a Sunday School teacher, a praying grandmother, a faithful friend, a difficult season, a passage of Scripture, a conviction we couldn't shake." - Joshua Kennon

Guided Prayer Template

"Thank You, Father, for the hidden work of Your Spirit in my life. Thank You for the Sunday School teacher who faithfully taught me Scripture. Thank You for the praying grandmother whose intercession I didn't fully understand then but recognize now. Thank You for the faithful friend who spoke truth when I needed to hear it. Thank You for the difficult seasons that shaped my faith. Thank You for continuing to work in me even when I cannot see it. Thank You that You are still working - correcting, shaping, strengthening, and changing me. I am grateful that I am not a finished work, and that Your grace is patient with my growth."



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SECTION 4: SUPPLICATION – REQUESTING GOD’S STRENGTH FOR SMALL OBEDIENCE

Supplication Prompts

1. For Faithfulness in Small Things
 - a. What small work of grace have you been overlooking?
 - b. What ordinary obedience is God calling you to?
 - c. How can you participate in the kingdom's quiet work?
2. For Perseverance Without Visible Results
 - a. Who are you praying for without seeing change?
 - b. Where do you need courage to keep sowing seed?
 - c. How can you trust God with what you cannot control?
3. For Spiritual Vision
 - a. Ask God to help you see His kingdom at work
 - b. Request wisdom to recognize hidden spiritual activity
 - c. Pray for discernment about what truly matters

Supporting Statement From The Sermon

"The kingdom grows when a parent begins praying with their children. The kingdom grows when someone finally confesses the bitterness they've been carrying and asks God to help them forgive. The kingdom grows when somebody who's been attending church for years finally understands the Gospel and trusts Jesus. The kingdom grows when a teacher prepares faithfully for 3 children." - Joshua Kennon

Guided Prayer Template

"Lord, give me courage to embrace the small work You've placed before me. Help me name one act of ordinary obedience and commit to it faithfully. Strengthen me when I cannot see results. When I share the Gospel with someone and see no immediate response, help me trust that You are working beneath the surface. When I teach my children Scripture and wonder how much they're getting, help me remain faithful. When I pray for a wandering family member year after year without seeing change, help me keep praying. Grant me the grace to plant seeds and mix in yeast without demanding a tracking number for my prayers. Help me trust that hidden is not the same as absent, that slow is not the same as stopped, and that small is not the same as weak. Work through me by Your Spirit, and keep my hope fixed on the day when Christ's kingdom will be seen in all its fullness."



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SECTION 5: PERSONAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Take a moment to write or speak aloud your personal prayer requests related to this message:

Reflection Questions

1. One small work of grace I've been overlooking:
2. One person I need to pray for faithfully:
3. One area where I need to trust God's hidden work:
4. One act of ordinary obedience I will commit to this week:

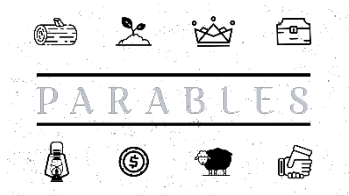
SECTION 6: CLOSING AFFIRMATIONS

Scripture Affirmations To Pray Aloud

- "The seed begins small, but it doesn't remain a seed." - Matthew 13:31-32
- "The yeast is hidden, but it doesn't remain ineffective." - Matthew 13:33
- "Hidden isn't the same as absent. Slow isn't the same as stopped. Small isn't the same as weak." - Joshua Kennon
- "You're not responsible for making the kingdom succeed. Jesus has already guaranteed its future. You're responsible for being faithful to the King." - Joshua Kennon

CLOSING PRAYER

"Father, as I leave this time of prayer, help me remember that my faithfulness matters. Help me plant the seed. Help me mix in the yeast. Help me speak the truth, offer the prayer, make the visit, teach the child, encourage the believer, and share the Gospel. Help me trust the King with what I cannot control. Give me eyes to see Your kingdom at work through Your Word, Your Spirit, and the ordinary faithfulness of Your people. In the name of Jesus, who lived faithfully in my place, died as my substitute, and rose bodily from the grave - Amen."



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JOURNALING PROMPTS

Spend 2-3 minutes reflecting on these questions in a journal:

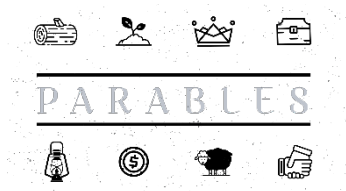
1. What small work of grace has God been doing in my life that I've overlooked?
2. How has God used hidden, quiet means to shape my faith journey?
3. What ordinary obedience is Jesus calling me to this week?
4. Where do I need to release my need for visible results and trust the King?
5. Who in my life needs to know that their small, faithful work matters to God?
6. How can I encourage someone this week who feels their obedience is too small to matter?

THIS WEEK'S "CALL"

Name one small work of grace you've been overlooking, and faithfully participate in it.

Examples from the sermon:

- Reading Scripture with your kids
- Praying for one person by name
- Encouraging somebody who rarely gets noticed
- Returning to church faithfully after drifting
- Beginning to give
- Beginning to serve
- Inviting someone to sit with you next Sunday
- Making a phone call to someone
- Offering a quiet apology



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"May you see God's kingdom at work through His Word, His Spirit, and the ordinary faithfulness of His people. May you plant seeds without demanding immediate harvest. May you trust the King with what you cannot control. May you remember that hidden is not the same as absent, that slow is not the same as stopped, and that small is not the same as weak. And may the peace of Christ, who conquered through humility and rose in power, guard your heart and mind as you faithfully follow Him."

– Pastor Joshua Kennon

HEAR THE STORY.

SEE THE KING.

ANSWER THE CALL.

