

Mar. 13 - Scripture: Luke 13: 18-35

A verse that speaks to you: v. 30: "...those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last." One of the most oft-quoted 'sayings' in the Bible!

Observation: An interesting little gem: Within these few verses is the parable of the mustard seed, the parable of the yeast, the closing of the door, and the attendees at a feast. All comparisons are made to the Kingdom of Heaven and who will get in.

We are left to work out the comparisons to the mustard seed, which grows into a lofty tree, spreading branches for the birds, and the yeast mixed with flour to work it through the dough. But Jesus is very clear on who will be saved.

Application: It kind of hits you between the eyes when someone asks Jesus if only a few will be saved and he answers, 'Make every effort to get through that narrow door now because a lot will be left outside, even those who 'know the owner.' In other words, you may "know" God but not get in. All the prophets in and you get thrown out. Wow. Better get our lives in order, we who think we are 'first' ---we may be last in line!

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, let me not take my faith for granted. Let me not think my 'good works' will get me into the Kingdom. Help me to remember the how and the why of the order of things so that I truly might be one at the feast, not on the outside looking in.

Writer: I found this 'simple' exercise to be extremely personal and thought-provoking and I'd prefer to remain anonymous.