

## Personal Study

(1) Read Mark 4:21-23 & Matthew 5:13-16 What is the connection between God's truth and our responsibility to help others see it?

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(2) Read Mark 4:24-25 & Matthew 25:14-30 What do these two parables communicate about God's response to faithfully obeying his instruction.

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(3) Read Mark 4:26-29 & Isaiah 55:6-11. Write out the similarities you see in these two passages.

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(4) Read Mark 4:30-32 & Philippians 1:6. What personal encouragement can we have in light of these verses?

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(5) Read Mark 4:33-34 What can you take from these two verses about how we can gain clarity on the truth of the Kingdom?

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(6) Read Romans 12:1-2 Explain the relationship between submitting to God and understanding His will.

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## Personal Application

(1) Do you ever feel confused about what God wants you to do? What is the process you use to discover it?

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(2) What is the most difficult thing God has called you to obey where you struggled to understand why?

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(3) How do you decide to obey or not to obey? Do you ever struggle to see the benefits of obedience?

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(4) How has obeying God helped you to better understand who God is and what His Kingdom is about?

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(5) How do you overcome discouragement of not seeing the final results of God's Kingdom now?

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(6) Why is it necessary to relinquish control over our lives and the lives of others in order to grow spiritually?

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(7) Write out your three practical ways to apply the teaching of these parables?

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