

MYSTERY

As preached on Sunday, June 13th

Read: Mark 4:26-29

1. How comfortable are you with uncertainty? What emotions does mystery evoke within you? What is the relationship between mystery, uncertainty, and your faith in God?
2. In this week's passage Jesus is teaching with parables. What is a parable? Why do you think Jesus chose to teach in this way rather than directly?
3. If Jesus was teaching parables today, which objects and activities do you think he would use?
4. How far do you think we should go in attempting to assign meaning to each element of Jesus' parable? (e.g. seeds, soil, grain, harvest, farmer) How can we know what each is supposed to represent?
5. Does a genuine faith in God require certainty? If so, how do you know this? What might the role of doubt and mystery be in the life of an earnest believer?
6. How does your faith respond to the mystery of the Trinity? Communion? The peace of God? Evangelism and salvation?
7. How can we, as those who follow Jesus, cultivate a deeper trust in God even while living in a world filled with profound mysteries?