

Spiritual Practice

The Kin-dom of God is Like



37 times in the Gospels Jesus describes the Kingdom of God, and 37 times it looks nothing like a political kingdom. Kin-dom is an eco-feminist term, describing a relational reimagining of what Christ's presence on earth and Good News can look like for us & for all creatures.

Do this practice on your own or with a group. You may want to bring a journal and write your own parable at the end.

Open with a prayer of illumination and inspiration - inviting the Spirit to speak to you through what you see, hear, smell, and experience outside...

Scripture

Luke 13:18-19

Jesus said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."

Reflection

You can do your reflection either while on a walk, or with any natural object you have on hand. Give yourself enough time to fully engage in this practice, so you can pay attention, breathe, take time to notice, to listen and be present. Consider clouds, a leaf, a rock, flowers, a tree, or water. Allow Jesus to speak to you through the song of a bird, the wind in the trees, or the laughter of children.

Ask yourself any of these questions:

- How might this be like the kin-dom of God?
- What lesson does it have to offer?
- How does this express characteristics of God?
- Does this speak into anything in your life or in society? Something you/we need?
- How would you complete the sentence: The kin-dom of God is like...

Integrating

Share your reflections with others in your group, or spend time writing or drawing your new parable.

Give thanks for the ways God speaks to us through creation, imagination, and metaphor.