

## Jesus Lets His Food Touch

Sunday January 31, 2021

**brumotactillophobia** – the fear of letting food touch on your plate or fork. A mild form of obsessive-compulsive disorder.

In what ways do you try to keep your life “segmented” or “curated”?

What are some categories that you have broken your life down into?

How has COVID and the lockdown complicated this?

**Like a Weed** (Matt. 13:31-32; Ez. 17:22-24)

What is the Kingdom of God/Heaven?

What image did the Jews have of God’s Kingdom (Ezekiel 17:22-24)?

Name some qualities of a mustard plant? Why was it “taboo”?

### The Kingdom Invades

Why does Jesus use a mustard seed as a symbol of His Kingdom rather than the mighty Cedar of Lebanon?

Why does God’s Kingdom way of doing things want to invade the entirety of your being and not just your spiritual life?

Are there areas of your life that you are curating apart from the Kingdom?

**Hey... Wait!** (Matt. 13:33; Lev. 2:4-5)

What does Jesus use as a symbol for the Kingdom in this verse?

Why was it strange for Jesus to make this analogy (see Lev. 2:4-5)?

Why do you think yeast was forbidden in worship to God? How is it a good analogy for sin?

Why does Jesus seem to consistently use “evil” as a parable for “good”?

*“According to the parables, the kingdom of God is free to appear anywhere, any time, and under any guise. It does not fit into our presuppositions or expectations, and still less, our demands. In fact, it deliberately removes, prop by prop, everything holding up our ideas of the nature of the kingdom and where it is to be found.” ~ Fr. Thomas Keating ~*

### Take It Home:

Does God need human intervention for His Kingdom to grow? Why?

Is the Kingdom tidy, predictable, controllable? How do you know this?

Why are these parables “Good News” to us?

1. Will I let Jesus challenge my presuppositions about what the Kingdom does and who it includes?
2. Will I allow Jesus to touch all areas of my life?
3. Or do I want to continue to curate my life?
4. Will we welcome the messy, uncontrollable growth that comes when we allow Him to run our lives?

*May you answer our Lord’s call to invade your life... may you grow abundantly as your whole lives are submitted to the will of God and the wild ways of the Kingdom.*