



# The Garden View

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### Time to Sprout

Gardening is more than a hobby or a simple interest. It is a miraculous thing, an example of a natural process with many latent lessons applicable to our own lives. It is an endeavor that begins with a hope, a guarantee yet unseen. Often, what we end up with is strikingly different than what we had when we began.

Consider the journey of the seed, specifically, a mustard seed. A small granule with a tough exterior, buried deep under heavy soil and in complete darkness. But inside this tiny pod is a magnificent power. Under the right conditions, the shell will break away to forge a luscious green and leafy plant, bursting forth from the ground and eventually sprouting beautiful, bright yellow flowers covering entire fields. The new plant is eventually harvested and dried-usually in order to glean the valuable piece that no one thought much of in the beginning—the seed.

The seed has inherent power. Power to grow, power to live beyond itself, power to transform, power to bring spice and flavor to life, power to be shelter and sustenance for others, and power to preserve a legacy. The seed only needs to follow the natural process ingrained in its being to become this way. It does not require a specific credential or a set of mapped out plans to be laid out first. It just unfolds by faith.

God asks us to exercise this type of faith. He asks us to humble ourselves and what we believe produces success and greatness and instead follow the example of the mustard seed. We are indeed tiny compared to His great power and His great plans but we play a role and we are given a choice. Lie fallow under the ground forever or.. sprout.

He invites us to sprout forth and it's easy. Just ask the mustard seed.

Matthew 13:31-32 (NIV)

31 He told the another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. 32 Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.

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