

## PARABLE POSTCARDS:

MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM REVEALED

MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-46

The seeking of the Kingdom of God is the chief business of the Christian life.

- Jonathan Edwards

### 1. Framing the Front Porch

### 2. Musing from Mustard (13:31-32)

3. Learning from Leaven (13:33-34)

4. Training from Treasure (13:44-36)

5. Practicing the Parables

## **Getting to Know You:**

1. If you could pass one thing on to your children as a legacy, what would it be? If you don't have children, what would you most like to inherit from someone in your family?

## **Into the Bible:**

2. When we read the parables, it can be easy to assume that a featured item always represents the same thing. However, leaven is most often associated negatively in scripture. Read Mark 8:15, I Corinthians 5:5-7 and Galatians 5:9. What is the key feature of leaven that connects all these passages?

3. The disciples, like most of the Jews, expected the Kingdom to be a big deal upon its arrival. What is Jesus teaching them about the Kingdom's appearance and potential for growth in verses 31-33?

### **Application:**

4. The parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl focus our attention on the immense value of the Kingdom of Heaven. In Luke 18:22 what does Jesus advise the young ruler to do to enter the Kingdom? In Matthew 6:21 Jesus has already told his followers to put their treasure where it counts. How do these passages apply to us and our "treasures"? Is the Kingdom truly worth everything to us? How would someone know?

### **For Families:**

5. Talk with your children about what we should really treasure in life.