

Make Room for Your Neighbor Faith

Pastor Craig Sweeney | March 8, 2026

What is faith? “...faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” **Hebrews 11:1 NASB**

Thread: When we join God in His move, it requires faith.

“Jesus also said, ‘The Kingdom of God is like a farmer who scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, while he’s asleep or awake, the seed sprouts and grows, but he does not understand how it happens. The earth produces the crops on its own. First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens. And as soon as the grain is ready, the farmer comes and harvests it with a sickle, for the harvest time has come.’” **Mark 4:26-29 NLT**

Jesus speaks about the ways of the kingdom of God.

- It’s like a farmer sowing seed.
- Miraculous things will take root and grow.
- What God is doing often starts small and then grows in time.
- God doesn’t need you for His work to be completed, but He chooses to invite you in.
- When God says it’s time to move, in FAITH, we move or we miss the season.

“Jesus said, ‘How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it? It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches, and birds can make nests in its shade.’” **Mark 4:30-32 NLT**

In you and me, God’s work seemingly starts small.

- It looks insignificant and even trivial.

“As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Let’s cross to the other side of the lake.’ So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water. Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, ‘Teacher, don’t you care that we’re going to drown?’ When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, ‘Silence! Be still!’ Suddenly the wind

stopped, and there was a great calm. Then he asked them, ‘Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?’ The disciples were absolutely terrified. ‘Who is this man?’ They asked each other. Even the wind and waves obey him!” **Mark 4:35-41 NLT**

From Jesus’ perspective - Why are you afraid to follow me where I lead you?

Truth: God’s work in our generation is producing a lot of fruit.

Truth: We will NOT know about most of God’s activity.

Truth: Jesus invites us to join Him in His activity.

Truth: Together, we, His church in faith, actively invite others to meet Jesus.

“... it is impossible to please God without faith.” **Hebrews 11:6a NLT**

“What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law — justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.” **Matthew 23:23 NLT**

What does Jesus mean by “the more important things”?

- He is pushing past the action of giving – to the motives of the heart.

Jesus just made a declaration about His followers, His Church.

- They, with Faith, offer back to God the “*Tithe*” of their income.
- Tithe means 10%.

God’s plan in the Old Testament and the New Testament to financially provide for His PEOPLE, the church, begins with the TITHE.

- Tithing is a FAITH MECHANISM so we may JOIN GOD’s work in our generation.
- The Church is UNIQUE and stands alone, as God’s HEART extended to a generation.

Prayer Point: Spirit of God give me faith for the transformation you desire to do in the people of my city.

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