

Main Scripture: Matthew 13:31-32

31 He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

Matthew 16:17-19 – And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

John 17:20-23 – My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Scripture References:

Colossians 1:15, 18 – The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation... 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Colossians 1:13-14 – For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27 – Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

...27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

John 15:5 – I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Hebrews 10:23-25 – Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

East Glenville Church – Sermon Notes Handout – January 18th 2026
Walking with Jesus #3 – Matthew 13:31-32 + John 17:20-23 – As One Body

Has technology made it easier to be independent of others? Including within the church?

We enter into the Kingdom of God through a _____ door, going in _____ by _____.

Yet Jesus taught that his disciples would be in one body of believers, _____ as one church.

Matthew 13:31-32 Parable: A small seed growing to be the largest tree in the _____

The birds of the air [Greek: *the birds of* _____] make their _____ in the tree.

The mustard seed described the small group of _____ at that time, but it would grow.

The whole garden belongs to God – and God intends to _____ it for His Kingdom!

Matthew 16:17-19 This is the first _____ to the Church in the New Testament

The foundation of the church is the _____ in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God.

The Church through the gospel will be on _____ against the forces of darkness

Two Contrasting Pictures of How we think about our relationship with Christ:

One - Jesus as our Life _____:

Two - Jesus as the _____ of the Church

Fits the American _____ mindset

Finding our place with His _____

We are in _____, and He helps us!

He is in _____, we _____ Him!

John 17:20-23 Jesus prays 3 times that they may all be _____!

Who is included in this prayer of Jesus?

John 15 – Jesus gives an image of unity: I am the _____ and you are the _____.

What is the basis of our unity in Christ? What is the effect of that unity for the world?

Our unity in Christ is a true spiritual _____ that we _____ to live out in this life!

How have you seen or experienced the unity of the body of Christ?