I. Matthew 13:10–11 - 7 parables about the Kingdom of Heaven

A. V11 - “Kingdom of heaven”
   1. Kingdom of Heaven - The foundational, principal components of heaven; the system or culture of heaven — not geographical place
   2. Culture - Webster - The set of attitudes, values, goals, and practices of a society, or organization.
      a) Kingdom Culture is the set of attitudes, values, goals and practices of the KINGDOM of Heaven.
   3. Matthew 4:17 (NKJV) 17 From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
      a) Repent - mĕtanŏĕō - To change one’s way of life as the result of a complete change of thought and attitude with regard to sin and righteousness
      b) At hand — ĕggizō - Come or bring near, approach
      c) Jesus said to pray - Matthew 6:10 (NKJV) 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.
         (1) In making decisions for our lives We need to use “common sense” — sense that is common to the right kingdom!

B. V31-33 - What is this kingdom (system) like?
   1. Like - hŏmŏiŏs — Resembling or similar; having the same or some of the same characteristics
   2. Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed…”
      a) First it is like a seed in general — something must be sown in order to produce a desired end result.
      b) Sow - spĕirō - To place or scatter seeds in ground for future growth
         (1) Doing something now that you will not see the benefit of UNTIL LATER!
   3. Where did he sow the seed? — “His field”
      a) The world - Speaks of the APPLICATION - Where it is applicable, where it works.
      b) Two applications: General and specific
         (1) General - The kingdom of heaven in the earth
            (a) Jesus started with 12 people and turned the world upside down. - 2.5 billion people - Christians - 7.9 billion people - 5.4 billion not saved
Specific - I sow seed in my personal “field” and grow the kingdom of heaven in my life.

The kingdom of heaven is not a kingdom driven by “need” but rather it is a kingdom that is driven by “seed!”

Genesis 8:22 (NKJV) 22 “While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease.”

Why a Mustard seed - A large herb with an exceptionally small seed; Referenced as the smallest known seed in Palestine at the time; but can grow to over 10ft tall

Least - mikrōs - Small in size compared to normal or to others

“Like a mustard seed” - Jesus is illustrating the kingdom of heaven (foundational, principal components of heaven) by contrasting the size of the seed to the size of the plant when it is full grown.

The initial size of something does not determine eventual impact.

When it is “grown” it is greater than the herbs and “becomes” a tree

Grown - auxanō - To increase by natural process

Becomes - ginōmai - To cause to be; come to exist

Psalm 1:1–3 (NKJV) 1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

Even the smallest of beginnings can produce a large impact

Job 8:7 (NKJV) 7 Though your beginning was small, Yet your latter end would increase abundantly.