



Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

June 17, 2018

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15 (12)

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 4:26-34

The Parables of Jesus

Object: A picture of a mustard seed or a jar of mustard seeds.



Have you ever noticed that when we come together for the children's sermon, we almost always start by showing you an object? After showing you the object and talking about it for a few minutes, we usually say something like, "That reminds me of what Jesus said in our Bible lesson today." Why do we do that? It is to help you to better understand what the Bible lesson means.

That is the same way that Jesus taught his followers about the Kingdom of God. When he taught, he began by saying, "The Kingdom of God is like. . ." and then he would give an example. That method of teaching is called a parable. The Bible tells us that Jesus used parables to teach people in such a way that they would understand.

In our Bible lesson today, we find one of the best-known parables of Jesus. It is called "The Parable of the Mustard Seed."

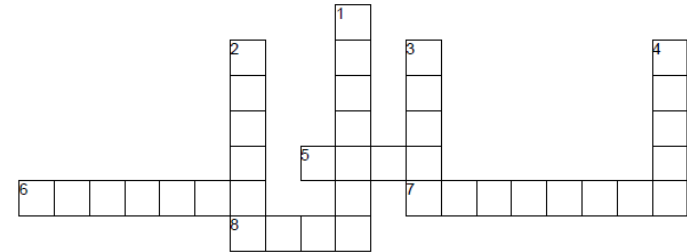
Jesus was teaching his followers that the Kingdom of God had a small beginning. How many disciples did Jesus start with? You are right, Jesus began his ministry on earth with a very small group of twelve followers, but as they followed Jesus and told others about him, the Kingdom grew and grew until it covered the whole earth. You might think that you are too small to be an important part of the Kingdom of God, but when we tell others about Jesus, we help the Kingdom to grow to spread over the whole earth.

Father, we sometimes think we are too small to be important in the Kingdom of God. If we will tell others about what Jesus has done for us and what he wants to do for them, we can have a part in growing the Kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. Alleluia. (James 1:21)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- A small grain of a plant placed in the ground for growing another plant
- A story told by Jesus to help explain his teachings
- Not as big as any of the others
- The place where birds lay eggs or give birth to their young

DOWN

- Bigger than any of the others
- An area where plants are grown
- Animals that have wings and are covered with feathers
- A living thing that grows in the ground, usually with leaves or flowers

SEED
PLANT

SMALLEST
BIRDS

PARABLE
LARGEST

NEST
GARDEN

MUSTARD SEED REFRIGERATOR MAGNET: Help the child to make a refrigerator magnet by gluing a small magnet strip(s) to the back of a 2½-inch by 4-inch piece of cardboard. You can buy magnet strips at craft shops. Decorate the card with the words "Big things come from little things" and glue a mustard seed to it.



THE PARABLE OF
THE MUSTARD SEED
MARK 4:30-34

