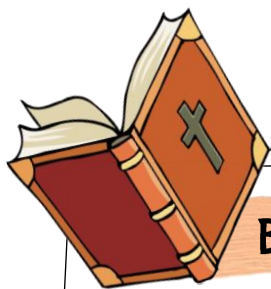


Together @ Home

Sunday 26th April
Eighth Sunday after
Pentecost



Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together several of Jesus' parables.

They can be found in your Bible in

Matthew 13:24-33, 44-46

Read these passages together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your family.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the little things you do that often go unnoticed. Help us to remember that size is not important in your kingdom and to be grateful for all things--big and small and all those in between.

May we remember that our small acts of kindness, love, and caring are important because you can use them to grow Your Kingdom and bring change to the world around us.

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

Why is it important for us to do the small, ordinary things we do to show love everyday--even though they're only "little" things?

The parables we focused on today teach us that little things are only the beginning for big things. Small things can make a big difference.

A question for children to ask adults

How has someone or something small made a difference or changed your life for the better?

Family Activity 1

Look Closely! Do you see what I see?

In his parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, Jesus pointed out the importance of small things in the Kingdom of God. The problem is, we can get so busy going and doing that we forget to notice all of the small details of the world around us.

Why not practice noticing things by playing Eye-Spy?

One player chooses an object in sight of all players and says, "I spy with my little eye something.... (insert any adjective describing the object)." Other players take turns guessing the object(s). Those guessing can ask yes/no questions such as "is it smaller than my hand, is it on the right side of the room/car, etc.)

Objects can be described using colors, shapes, numbers, or even letters ("I spy something that starts with the letter C").

See who can spy and who can guess the smallest detail.





A verse to remember

Psalm 105:1-2

**Give thanks to the Lord and pray to him.
Tell the nations what he has done.
Sing to him. Sing praises to him.
Tell about all the wonderful things he has done.**

Psalm 105 gives us wonderful instructions for how to show thanks to the Lord--by telling other people about God's works, singing praises to God, seeking God's presence every day, and remembering the many good things God has done!

To learn this verse together, come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Family Activity 2

You will need: *resealable plastic sandwich bag (Ziploc), vinegar, toilet paper, baking soda*

It's important to do this activity OUTSIDE! Pour 1/2 cup of vinegar into baggie. Place 1 tbsp baking soda in the center of a couple squares of toilet paper and twist the paper so the baking soda is in a little pouch. QUICKLY drop the baking soda into the baggie, squeeze out extra air, and seal the bag. Shake the bag a little to release the baking soda and watch the baggie expand! A small amount of baking soda made a big difference!

Active Prayer

Small things can make a big difference!

This week, pick one person to pray for every day using this head to toe prayer activity.

Put your hands on your head

Pray for their mind that they would know God and learn more about Him today.



Put your hands on your heart

Pray that they would know God's love in their heart and love others today.



Put your hands on your feet

Pray that God would guide their steps today and be with them wherever they go.

Stretch up as high as you can

Pray that they would grow in faith today.

Stretch out as wide you can

Pray that they would be a blessing to all those around them.



Coloring Page



paint the world
SUPER
COLORING

The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast
Matthew 13:31-33

Mustard Seeds and Yeast

Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. Matthew 13:34 (NIV)



Complete the activity. If you need help, you can find the answers in Matthew 13:31-35. (NIV)

He told them another _____: “The kingdom of _____ is like a _____ seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the _____ of all _____, yet when it grows, it is the _____ of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the _____ come and perch in its branches.”

He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like _____ that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of _____ until it worked all through the _____.”

Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

“I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.”

1. Find the hidden words. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. When you locate a word, draw a circle around it.

D	O	U	H	T	C	S	B	M	D	P	T	T	V	P
N	N	R	Q	Z	K	S	U	B	G	D	Q	W	Z	T
Y	R	N	W	G	H	E	Z	P	O	U	N	D	S	O
E	O	H	E	A	V	E	N	U	S	R	C	E	T	H
A	W	J	X	K	I	D	S	M	A	L	L	E	S	T
S	V	J	D	L						W	O	M	A	N
T	M	N	O	A						U	Q	T	M	M
K	W	A	U	R						G	R	O	W	S
I	G	B	G	G						R	Y	H	I	J
N	T	Z	H	E						B	I	R	D	S
G	L	K	W	S	M	U	S	T	A	R	D	Y	R	D
D	W	L	O	T	H	W	F	L	O	U	R	P	G	N
O	P	B	S	I	X	T	Y	H	S	D	I	J	T	B
M	J	N	H	K	S	M	F	Y	X	D	I	N	N	J
D	D	G	Y	H	X	J	B	P	A	R	A	B	L	E



MUSTARD
SMALLEST
POUNDS

KINGDOM
HEAVEN
YEAST

GROWS
WOMAN
DOUGH

FLOUR
PARABLE
BIRDS

LARGEST
SIXTY
SEED