

# Sunday School Lesson

## Sunday, July 4, 2021

### Sixth Sunday After Pentecost



“The Kingdom of heaven is like this.”

While labeled Sunday School, please feel free to use these ideas in a way that blesses your family. You do not have to do all the activities, nor do you need to do them on Sunday morning. You can use whatever translation of the Bible or Children’s Bible you have in your home.

**Read:** Matthew 13: 31-33

#### **Activities and Background:**

Something Big from Something Small – In this scripture we have two parables used by Jesus to help people understand the Kingdom of heaven. Within these three verses are the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Parable of the Yeast. We can think about how the Salvation of the World started with the birth of a small baby. We can think about how small acts of kindness grow to world changing events.

1. Read the scripture and wonder about the story with your child. I wonder if they were standing by a mustard plant when Jesus told the story. I wonder if these two parables are put together because men would understand the seed imagery and women the yeast.
2. Plant a mustard seed or any seed and observe how it grows. Make a bread experiment by putting yeast in one batch and no yeast in the other. What happens? While images the people around Jesus would have clearly understood our children may not have had the planting and baking experiences to completely understand, so provide it for them.
3. Another part of the parable often overlooked is that both of these events take time. The dough must be left to rise and the plant must grow. The Kingdom of Heaven will come but it takes time. Children need help being patient. Read “The Carrot Seed” by Ruth Krauss.
4. Discuss as a family something you might start small and have the church/community get involved and it grow. (Food donation, clothing gathering, recycling, community cleanup)
5. Read the story one more time and then draw a picture to help you remember the story.
6. End with a prayer.

*Lord,  
Plant in me the seed of your Kingdom.  
Nurture that seed that I may live according to your kingdom.  
Thank you for parables which help me understand.  
Amen.*