



Parent Resource

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Theme: God's Kingdom may start small, but it grows big and strong.

Text: Matthew 13:31–32; Mark 4:30–32; Luke 13:18–19

Children's Lesson: 6-12

Time: 45–60 minutes

1. Welcome & Hook (5 minutes)

- Show the kids a tiny mustard seed (or any very small seed).
 - Ask: ***“Do you think something this small can turn into something big?”***
 - Transition: “Jesus told a story about a tiny seed to show us how God’s kingdom grows.”
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2. Bible Story (10 minutes)

- Read the parable from Matthew 13:31–32 (short, simple).
 - **Explain in kid language:**
 - The mustard seed is very, very tiny.
 - When planted, it grows into a big bush where birds can rest.
 - Jesus says God’s kingdom is like that—it may start small, but it grows huge!
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3. Illustration (5 minutes)

- **Object Lesson:** Bring a seed and a picture of a grown tree/bush.

- Seed: “This looks like nothing, right?”
 - Tree picture: “But with water and time, it grows to something much bigger!”
 - **Point:** “God’s kingdom started small—with Jesus and just a few disciples—but today, millions of people around the world follow Him.”
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4. Discussion (10 minutes)

Ask simple, open-ended questions:

1. Why do you think Jesus compared God’s kingdom to a seed?
 2. What are small things you can do for God that might grow big later?
 3. How do you think God’s kingdom is growing today?
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5. Activity Options (10–15 minutes)

Choose one, depending on your child and the developmental level:

Activity: Plant a seed and watch it grow. How long did it take?

Craft – “Seed Faith Card”

- Give each child a card and glue a tiny seed to it.
- Write: “*Faith like a mustard seed grows!*” (Matthew 13:31–32).
- Kids decorate with markers or stickers.

Drama – Act It Out

- One child is the “seed.” Others pretend to water it, and slowly the “seed” grows into a tall tree where “birds” (other kids) come and rest.
 - **Point:** God’s kingdom grows bigger and bigger, giving shelter and hope.
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6. Memory Verse (5 minutes)

Matthew 13:31–32 (shortened for kids: “**The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed... it grows into the largest of plants.**”)

- Repeat together with motions:

- “Kingdom of heaven” → point up
 - “Mustard seed” → pinch fingers tiny
 - “Grows” → spread arms wide
 - “Largest of plants” → stretch arms tall like a tree
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7. Closing Application (5 minutes)

- **Key Point:** God’s kingdom may look small, but nothing can stop it from growing.
- **Challenge:** This week, do one “small seed” action (kind word, prayer, helping someone). Trust God to make it grow.

Prayer:

“God, thank You that Your kingdom is always growing. Help us to trust You with the little things we do, because **You can use them** for something big!”
